

CHIEFS OF THE MEDICAL DEPARTMENT
UNITED STATES ARMY
1775 - 1940



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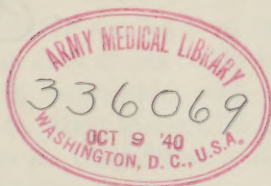
CHIEFS OF THE MEDICAL DEPARTMENT
UNITED STATES ARMY

1775 — 1940.

Biographical Sketches

Compiled by

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*Peace to the ashes of the departed; years
of zestful life to the surviving.*

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FOREWORD

More than thirty years have passed since the appearance in print of Major J. E. Pilcher's *Surgeon Generals of the Army*. The edition of this excellent work was small, it is now out of print, and few copies of it are available to those interested in its material. While Major Pilcher's book is largely concerned with the administration of the office of the medical chief by its incumbents, it is here desired to discourse on the man himself, the details of his early career, the personal qualities and the fortuitous circumstances which brought him to the leadership of the corps. It goes without saying that every occupant of the office has been possessed of outstanding qualities, qualities of character, of personality, of leadership, of industry, of high intelligence. Some combination of these qualities together with a modicum of ambition, has entered into the making of every one of these careers. But not every man with the ambition to lead the corps, even though richly endowed with the qualities to fill the office with distinction, has been able to see his ambitions realized. There are always a set of circumstances which limits the choice sharply, and, ultimately, some determining circumstances which govern the selection. It is thus a misfortune for any man to set his heart too firmly upon this goal. No situation in the service is more unfortunate than that of the defeated candidate for the head of the corps who cannot accept philosophically the fact of his being set aside.

While thus primarily concerned with the man himself, an attempt has been made to chart the major achievements of each administration, but with no thought of producing anything approaching a history of the medical service.

There appears to be no question in regard to the men who are entitled to places on the roll of "chiefs of the medical service." During the years of the Revolutionary War, at the time of the threatened war with France in 1799, and again in the War of 1812, men were selected from the civilian profession and placed in definite charge of the medical service, to be returned to civilian life at the close of the emergency. There were thus considerable periods of years when there was no such medical

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head, when in fact there was no medical organization beyond that of the regiment. The Legion of General Anthony Wayne was organized in 1792 for service against the Indians in Ohio and Richard Allison was designated "Surgeon to the Legion." Though he had subordinate medical officers, his position as chief medical officer of this field force hardly makes his status that of the chief of the national medical service. It was not until 1818 that a medical department in time of peace was authorized and a medical officer of career appointed to be its head. The title of Surgeon General first bestowed in that year has carried down to the present day.

Not all of our medical chiefs have been happy in their administration of the office. The first three to guide the destinies of the service during the Revolutionary War were unfortunate in being compelled to make bricks with a scarcity of straw and left the service under unhappy circumstances. The Civil War, too, with its Sanitary Commission and its tyrannical Secretary of War, proved the undoing of two surgeon generals. With the passing years, while the pressure of administration problems has increased, there has been a diminution in friction within the War Department and the later occupants of the office have reigned in comparative peace and quiet.

Length of terms of the office have been extremely variable. General Lawson held the place for twenty-four years, while Generals Lovell and Barnes each completed eighteen years. General Ireland's thirteen years of office came next in length. In contrast, four men held the place for less than a year, while a fifth completed but a little over one year.

The circumstance of seniority has been a potent factor in the choice of our surgeon generals. For a considerable period it was apparently the decisive one. Generals Lawson, Finley, Murray, Baxter, Sutherland, and Forwood were the senior officers of the corps and by reason of that fact were assistant surgeon generals by title or by duties at the time of their appointments. In later years absolute seniority has counted for little, though relative rank within the corps has always been an important factor.

The references appended to each biographical sketch are the principal, but by no means the sole, sources of information

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which have been consulted in the preparation of this work. Old records of the War Department, of the Pension Bureau, of the Census Bureau have furnished many items of pertinent information as have the newspaper files of the Library of Congress. Only one acquainted with biographical research will appreciate the numberless sources which must be searched for the items to make up a complete and accurate record of a man's career.

It is desired to express deep appreciation of the courtesy and helpfulness of Colonel Harold W. Jones, M. C., Librarian, and the staff of the Army Medical Library in the collection of the material for the biographical work, to Lieut. Colonel James E. Ash, M.C., Curator, and Mr. Roy M. Reeve, photographer, of the Army Medical Museum for the reproduction of the portraits which add so much to the appearance and usefulness of the book, to Mr. George A. Scheirer of The Surgeon General's Office for his valuable contributions toward completion of the manuscript and index, and last, though perhaps foremost, to Major General Charles R. Reynolds who kindly voiced approval of this useful employment of my otherwise purposeless days.

J. M. P.

March 27, 1940.

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CHIEFS OF THE MEDICAL DEPARTMENT

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BENJAMIN CHURCH

I.

BENJAMIN CHURCH (August 24, 1734 - 1776), Director General and Chief Physician of the Hospital of the Army, July 27, 1775 - Oct. 17, 1775, was born in Newport, R. I. He was the son of Benjamin Church, a merchant of Boston and deacon of the Hollis Street Congregation Church conducted by the Rev. Mather Byles. His grandfather, Colonel Benjamin Church, took a prominent part in the war with the Narragansett Indians and led the force which hunted King Philip to his death on August 12, 1675. The third Benjamin attended the Boston Latin School and graduated from Harvard College in 1734. He studied medicine with Dr. Joseph Pynchon, later continuing his studies in London. While there he married Hannah Hill of Ross, Herfordshire. Returning to Boston he built up a reputation as a talented physician and a skillful surgical operator. With growing friction between the colonies and Great Britain, Church supported the Whig cause vigorously with his pen, but even in the early stages of the controversy he was accused of being secretly a supporter of the government. There is evidence that during this period he was variously considered as an ardent patriot and as a secret Tory sympathizer. He examined the bodies of the dead and treated some of the wounded in the so-called Boston Massacre on May 5, 1770, and in 1773 he delivered an anniversary oration, *To Commemorate the Bloody Tragedy of the Fifth of May 1770*, which marks him as an orator of high order. In 1774, after a secret meeting of Whig leaders, it was stated that the business of the meeting had been divulged to the Tories and Church was accused of having furnished the information. He continued, however, in the confidence of the Whig leaders and in 1774 he was appointed a delegate to the Massachusetts Provincial Congress and to membership in the Committee of Safety, which had charge of preparation for armed conflict. On Feb. 21, 1775, the Provincial Congress appointed him with Dr. Joseph Warren a committee to make an inventory of medical supplies necessary for the army and on March 7 voted them the sum of five hundred pounds for the purchase of such supplies. On May

8 he was appointed a member of an examining board for surgeons for the army and on June 19 a resolution ordered "that Dr. Church, Dr. Taylor, and Dr. Whiting be a committee to consider what method is proper to take to supply the hospitals with surgeons and that the same gentlemen be a committee to provide medicine and other necessaries for hospitals." As the chairman of a subcommittee of the Committee of Safety, he signed a report on May 12 which recommended a system of defensive works on Prospect Hill and Bunker Hill. On the other hand he came under criticism for having entered Boston after the battle of Lexington and having been in conference with General Gage. In May he went to Philadelphia to consult the Continental Congress about the defense of Massachusetts colony, and on July 27 that body authorized the establishment of a medical department of the army with a director general and chief physician and chose Church to fill that position. In the meantime, on July 2, General Washington had arrived at Cambridge to take command of the colonial forces and Church was one of the committee appointed to receive him.

From the day of his appointment Church was in difficulty. Though of undisputed professional skill and of distinguished literary and political ability he was deficient in the executive qualifications essential in an army staff and quite unfitted to cope with a personnel that was to give succeeding medical chiefs their main trouble—the regimental surgeons. His relations with these medical officers became so strained that a tempest of complaint poured in upon the army headquarters and Washington was compelled to order an investigation of the service. In defense Church complained of the jealousy of rivals for his position and is said to have asked for permission to leave the army. In the meantime an incident arose which brought him before an army court-martial on Oct. 4, 1775.

In July 1775 Church had sent a cipher letter addressed to Major Cane, a British officer in Boston. The letter was intercepted and was sent to Washington in September. It was decoded and found to contain an account of the American forces before Boston, but contained no disclosures of great importance. It contained, however, a declaration of Church's devotion to the Crown and asked for directions for continuing the correspond-

ence. The matter was placed before a court of inquiry made up of general officers, Washington presiding, to whom Church admitted the authorship of the letter but explained that it was written with the object of impressing the enemy with the strength and position of the colonial forces in order to prevent an attack while the Continental army was still short of ammunition and in hopes of aiding to bring about an end to hostilities. The court considered that Church had carried on a criminal correspondence with the enemy and recommended that the matter be referred to the Continental Congress for its action. The report of Washington to the President of Congress is in part as follows:

"I have now a painful though necessary duty to perform, respecting Doctor Church, the Director of the Hospital. About a week ago, Mr. Secretary Ward, of Providence, sent up one Wainwood, an inhabitant of Newport, to me with a letter directed to Major Cane in Boston, in occult letters, which he said had been left with Wainwood some time ago by a woman who was kept by Doctor Church. She had before pressed Wainwood to take her to Captain Wallace, Mr. Dudley, the Collector, or George Rowe, which he declined. She gave him the letter with strict injunctions to deliver it to either of these gentlemen. He, suspecting some improper correspondence, kept the letter and after some time opened it, but not being able to read it, laid it up, where it remained until he received an obscure letter from the woman, expressing an anxiety as to the original letter. He then communicated the whole matter to Mr. Ward, who sent him up with the papers to me. I immediately secured the woman, but for a long time she was proof against every threat and persuasion to discover the author. However she was at length brought to a confession and named Doctor Church. I then immediately secured him and all his papers. Upon the first examination he readily acknowledged the letter and said that it was designed for his brother, etc. The army and country are exceedingly irritated."

Congress on Oct. 17, 1775, elected Dr. John Morgan "in the room of" Dr. Church and on Nov. 7 passed the following resolution:

"That Doctor Church be close confined in some secure jail in the Colony of Connecticut, without use of pen, ink and paper, and that no person be allowed to converse with him except in the presence and hearing of a magistrate of the town or the sheriff of the county where he is confined, and in the English language, until further orders from this or a future Congress."

In accordance with this resolution he was confined at Norwich, Connecticut. Previous to this action, however, he was arraigned on Nov. 2 before the Massachusetts Provincial Congress. Despite an eloquent appeal in his own defense he was unanimously expelled as a member of the House. Owing to the unfavorable effects of confinement upon his health he was, in January 1776, released from jail and was permitted considerable movement under guard. On May 13 he was permitted to return to Massachusetts under bond. Shortly thereafter he sailed from Boston, presumably for the West Indies, but the vessel on which he took passage was never heard from again.

Thus miserably ended a career that had been brilliantly begun. It is difficult, even impossible, to estimate at this time the degree of his guilt. He was deeply in debt and the position he had won, promising eminence and profit, had proved only a source of trouble and devoid of glory. He was convicted, not of treason, but of communicating with the enemy. It should be remembered that Church's letter was written at a time when independence was in the minds of only a few medical leaders.

The colonial conflict was popularly viewed as a struggle of British citizens for British rights. Church was an ambitious man with considerable personal conceit. A friendly viewpoint is that "he visualized himself as the arbitrator who should bring about the restoration of friendly relations between the fatherland and the colonies, little suspecting that its effects would place him in the ranks of those we brand as traitors."

Appearances were decidedly against him, and at a time when party zeal and prejudice were keen in search of men suspected of disloyalty. However harmless his letter to his British officer friend may have been, its discovery marked him as a traitor to a cause to which he was ostensibly giving distinguished service. It is said that his family was pensioned by the British government.

[L. C. Duncan *Medical Men in the American Revolution, 1773-1783* (1931). James Thacher *American Medical Biography* (1828). T. H. S. Hamersly *Complete Army and Navy Register of the United States, 1776-1887* (1888). *Dictionary of American Biography*, Vol. IV (1930). J. M. Toner *Medical Men of the Revolution* (1876). P. M. Ashburn *History of the Medical Department of the U. S. Army* (1929). F. R. Packard *History of Medicine in the United States* (1931).]



JOHN MORGAN

II.

JOHN MORGAN (June 10, 1735 - Oct. 15, 1789), Director General and Physician-in-Chief of the American Hospital, Oct. 17, 1775 - Jan. 9, 1777, was born in Philadelphia, the son of Evan and Joanna (Miles) Morgan. His father had emigrated from Wales, settling in Philadelphia, and had become a successful merchant. The family were Quakers. John Morgan attended the Academy conducted by the Rev. Samuel Finley at Nottingham, Chester County, and received the degree of B. A. from the College of Philadelphia in 1757 in the first class graduated from that institution. In the meantime he had been studying medicine for a number of years, for some time as an apprentice to Dr. John Redman a leading practitioner of Philadelphia. In April 1758 he joined the British army operating against Fort Duquesne as a first lieutenant of the line but his duties were largely the care of the sick. After two years of military service he resigned and sailed for London in 1760 to resume the study of his profession. For the next year he "walked" the hospitals of London making the acquaintance of the leading lights of the medical profession of that time. Later he attended the University of Edinburgh where he received his M. D. degree in 1763. Then followed a term of study in the hospitals of Paris and Rome. Returning to London he was elected Fellow of the Royal Society. He was already a licentiate of the College of Physicians of London and a member of the College of Physicians of Edinburgh. During all of his European sojourn he was planning the creation of a medical school in his home city and when he returned there in 1765 he carried with him the recommendations of a number of British medical educators in furtherance of that plan. He submitted his proposals to the board of trustees of the College of Philadelphia and on May 3, 1765, he was elected professor of the theory and practice of medicine in the new medical department.

Thereby was created the first medical professorship in America. At the commencement exercises of the college at the end of May he delivered his famous address entitled, *A dis-*

course upon the *Institution of Medical Schools in America*, which he had prepared before leaving Paris. When the school opened the following October, William Shippen, Jr., filled the chair of anatomy and surgery, Adam Kuhn that of botany and materia medica, and Benjamin Rush that of chemistry. Morgan limited his practice to internal medicine and was one of the first physicians in America to give up dispensing drugs and turn over that business to the practitioners of pharmacy. Not only was he in a short time in possession of a highly lucrative practice, but he enjoyed high standing in the arts and letters as well as in society. He became one of the leading men of the Philadelphia of his day. He was one of the founders of the American Philosophical Society in 1769 and contributed papers to its *Transactions*. For years he was physician to the Pennsylvania Hospital. The beginning of strained relations between the colonies and Britain moved him to write *The Reciprocal Advantage of a Perpetual Union between Great Britain and her Amercian Colonies*, in 1766. But with increasing friction he definitely aligned himself with the cause of the colonies. His service in the Revolutionary army began on October 17, 1775, when he was elected by Congress director general and physician-in-chief of the American hospital "in the room of" Dr. Benjamin Church. He accepted promptly and at once reported for duty to General Washington at Cambridge. Here he was confronted by an appalling situation in which he found unequipped hospitals overcrowded with an unsegregated variety of patients and manned by incompetent personnel without the implements of their profession. Typhoid fever, dysentery, malaria, and smallpox were rife among the troops. He was able to do much to remedy these chaotic conditions. He began the campaign for vaccination by publishing *Recommendation of Inoculation According to Baron Dimsdale's Method* (1776). He collected medicines and hospital supplies, instituted new examinations for medical officers, and brought about the beginning of system in the medical organization. He inaugurated a plan to supply to each regimental surgeon a well-stocked medical chest. By the time the British evacuated Boston in April 1776 he had brought about fairly satisfactory conditions. His orders to transfer the hospital to New York brought new problems. A branch of the hospital had to be

left at Cambridge to care for the patients that could not travel. He was able to collect large quantities of blankets, rugs, bedsacks, and pillows and these together with a considerable stock of medicine he transported to New York, where he established his hospital. The disastrous campaign which began with the battle of Long Island and resulted in the evacuation of Manhattan Island and the withdrawal to New Jersey and Westchester completely disorganized the frail system that had been built up. His chief difficulty was with the regimental surgeons, whose demands for supplies he was not able to satisfy, and who were persisting in maintaining regimental hospitals. He had collected in some way the supplies for his hospital and he was impatient that the regimental surgeons had not provided for themselves from the facilities of the neighborhood from which they came. Following a conference with the regimental surgeons Morgan submitted to Congress a set of regulations for the guidance of the medical service, remarkable in its scope and in its detail. Thus was suggested a system of medical supply by means of "Continental druggists" entirely independent of the director-general and issuing directly to the regimental surgeons. This system was adopted and functioned for a time with but scant success. Another provision called for the abolition of regimental hospitals, but when put into effect it had only limited compliance from the regimental surgeons. Up to this time there had been a distinct line of demarcation between medical officers serving with troops and those serving in hospitals, their duties being in no way interchangeable. The inequalities existing between the two groups were removed, but without entirely healing the breach between them. Continued dissatisfaction was still rife among the regimental surgeons. They increased their efforts to undermine Morgan with Congress. Involved in this agitation was Dr. William Shippen, Morgan's colleague in the Philadelphia Medical School and now Medical Director of the Flying Camp, operating in New Jersey. On October 9, 1776, Congress passed a resolution dividing the jurisdiction over army hospitals. All those east of the Hudson river were to remain under the control of Morgan, while those to the west of the river were assigned to Shippen's control. Morgan supervised the medical service with the army in Westchester in such a man-

ner as to win the praise of General Washington. From New York the general hospital was moved to North Castle and after the battle of White Plains, to Peekskill. A branch was established at Stamford, Conn. In November Morgan went to Philadelphia for the purpose of obtaining from Congress an explanation of the resolution dividing the authority over hospitals. He was unable to obtain a hearing, but was privately informed that the arrangement was to stand. In the meantime the agitation of the regimental surgeons continued unabated and was augmented by complaints from the Northern army where Medical Director Samuel Stringer had from the beginning denied and resisted Morgan's authority. On January 9, 1777, Congress, without consulting Washington and without holding any hearing, passed a resolution dismissing both Morgan and Stringer from the army. Thus ended the army career of a man who never had a chance of a success. A man of high character and ability, of tireless energy under every discouragement, he made a gallant struggle against the impossible. If the medical service of this period of the war was a failure, so was every other service of the army, and the army command itself. An army of amateurs was pitted against professionals and only the costly lessons of failure could equalize them. Morgan retired a disappointed and broken man, the victim of public clamor against failures which were more chargeable to Congress than to any army service.

Stung by the injuries of his arbitrary dismissal, Morgan prepared and widely circulated his *Vindication of his Public Character in the Station of Director General of the Military Hospital and Physician-in-Chief to the American Army*. Brought to the attention of Congress, it was referred to a committee, but no report was made upon it until May 12, 1779. This report, unanimously approved by Congress was as follows:

"Whereas, by report of the Medical Commission confirmed by Congress on the ninth of August 1777, it appears that Doctor John Morgan, late Director General, and Chief Physician of the General Hospital of the United States, had been removed from office on the ninth of January 1777, by reason of the general complaint of persons of all rank in the army, and the critical state of affairs at that time: and that the said Doctor John Morgan requesting an inquiry into his conduct, it was thought proper that a committee of Congress should be appointed for that purpose: and whereas, on the eighteenth day of September last,

such a committee was appointed before whom the said Doctor John Morgan had in a most satisfactory manner vindicated his conduct in every respect, as Director General and Physician-in-Chief, upon the testimony of the Commander-in-Chief, General officers, officers in the general hospital department and other officers in the army showing that the said Director General did conduct himself ably and faithfully in the discharge of the duties of his office, therefore:

Resolved that Congress are satisfied with the conduct of Doctor John Morgan while acting as Director General and Physician-in-Chief in the general hospitals of the United States, and that this resolution be published."

This was a handsome apology, but it was long delayed and there was no word in it in regard to a restoration to the service. It could not entirely bolster the broken spirit which Morgan carried to the end of his days. He had been nourishing his resentment against his successor, Shippen, and now, his own record vindicated, he preferred against that officer charges of malpractice and misconduct of his office. With the active support of Dr. Benjamin Rush, he pushed the charges before Congress and the army command until Shippen was ordered before a court-martial. Following his retirement from the army Morgan took up his practice and his teaching in Philadelphia. However, he withdrew more and more from contact with public affairs and in 1785 he resigned from the office of physician to the Pennsylvania Hospital. He continued to hold the chair of medicine in the medical school until his death in his native city at the age of fifty-four.

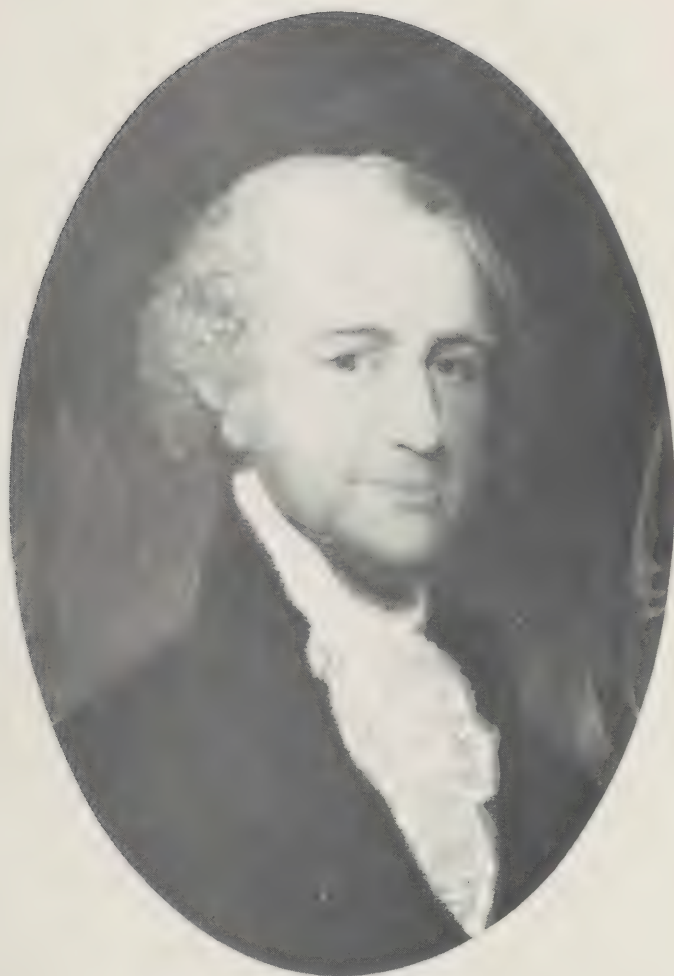
He was married on September 4, 1765, to Mary Hopkinson, daughter of Thomas and Mary Hopkinson, who died in 1785. They had no children. Their burial place is in the churchyard of St. Peter's in Philadelphia.

[L. C. Duncan *Medical Men in the American Revolution, 1775-1783* (1931). John Thacher *American Medical Biography* (1828). Joseph Carson *History of the Medical Department of the Univ. of Pa.* (1869). C. W. Norris *Early History of Medicine in Philadelphia* (1886). J. A. Morgan *History of the Family of Morgan* (1902). T. H. S. Hamersly *Complete Army and Navy Register of the United States, 1776-1887* (1888). J. E. Pilcher *Surgeon Generals of the Army* 1905).]

III.

WILLIAM SHIPPEN, JR. (Oct. 21, 1736 - July 11, 1808), Director General of the Military Hospitals of the Continental Army, April 11, 1777 - Jan. 3, 1781, was born in Philadelphia, the son of Dr. William and Susannah (Harrison) Shippen. His father was one of the most prominent medical men of his time, one of the founders of the Pennsylvania Hospital and of the University of Pennsylvania, a trustee for thirty years of Princeton College, and a member of the Continental Congress elected in 1788. The son attended Rev. Samuel Finley's School at Nottingham in Chester County and the College of New Jersey (Princeton) from which he graduated with the degree of A. B. in 1754. He was valedictorian of his class and showed such talent that he was urged to study for the ministry. However, he returned to Philadelphia and took up the study of medicine with his father. In 1758 he went to London where he studied anatomy under John Hunter and midwifery under the older brother, William. He obtained his doctorate in medicine from the University of Edinburgh in 1761, presenting a thesis entitled, *De Placentae cum Utero Nexu* (1761).

After a visit to the schools and hospitals of Paris he returned to Philadelphia in 1762 and immediately began preparations for giving courses in anatomy and midwifery. He began his anatomical lectures and demonstrations in November 1762 and achieved a notable success though meeting with much criticism and some violence on account of the popular hostility to human dissection. In 1765 he began his lectures on midwifery, the first systematic instruction in obstetrics given in this country. He engaged actively in this specialty, though as was customary at the time he left the actual management of the labor in the hands of female midwives. With the establishment of the medical school of the College of Philadelphia in 1765, Shippen was appointed professor of anatomy and surgery in 1766. When this school was merged with the University of Pennsylvania in 1791 he was given the chair of anatomy, surgery, and midwifery. He was on the staff of the Pennsylvania Hospital in 1778-79 and



WILLIAM SHIPPEN, JR.

from 1791 to 1802. He was a member of the American Philosophical Society and was one of the founders of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia and its president from 1805 to 1808.

Shippen's military service began with his appointment on June 15, 1776, to the position of medical director of the Flying Camp, a force of about ten thousand troops, operating in New Jersey, with headquarters at Trenton. On October 9 Congress directed him to establish a general hospital for the troops with which he was serving and on November 24 passed a resolution giving him supervision over all military hospitals west of the Hudson river, and limiting Director General Morgan's authority to those east of that river. This order and its administration caused a break in the friendly relations previously existing between the two men, resulting eventually in a serious estrangement, which cast a cloud over the careers of both. It appears that Shippen was highly critical of Morgan's administration of the medical service and that he made little or no effort to counteract the dissatisfaction among the regimental surgeons. Following Morgan's separation from the service there was an interval during which there was no head of the medical department. During this period a plan for the reorganization of the medical service, based upon the British system, was submitted by Shippen and Dr. John Cochran, a man of previous military service. This plan, approved by Washington, was voted into effect by Congress on April 7, 1777, and on April 11 the medical officers to fill the places created by the act were elected. Shippen was elected director general, and Cochran physician and surgeon, of the army. This legislation definitely fixed the status of the director general as executive head of the department. In the reorganization a deputy director general was provided for each of three military districts, the director general himself retaining supervision over the fourth. An assistant director general was provided for command of each general hospital, and senior surgeons, second surgeons, and surgeons' mates provided for their medical service, with apothecaries, commissaries, matrons, storekeepers, stewards, and nurses for other duties in the hospitals. A physician general and a surgeon general were provided for each military district and a physician and surgeon general for each army.

During the winter of 1776-77 Shippen had collected practically all of the army sick into hospitals at Bethlehem, Easton, and Allentown in the upper Delaware valley, and established his office in Bethlehem. In the latter part of March 1777 the hospital was transferred to Philadelphia. The service to the sick was much improved under the new system; but it was still far from giving general satisfaction and the same complaints that beset Morgan were renewed. The care of the sick in the hospitals again at Bethlehem, during the tragic winter of 1777-78, came under particular criticism. Immediately following his vindication by Congress on May 11, 1779, former Director Morgan addressed a letter to Congress charging Shippen with malpractice and misconduct of his office and declaring himself ready to produce the necessary proof of his charges. In this action he had the active support of Dr. Benjamin Rush, a former medical officer who laid his resignation from the service to Shippen's ill-will. Other men of high standing in the medical service supported Morgan's charges. The specifications against Shippen included ignorance and neglect of his duties, misapplication of hospital supplies and funds and the rendition of false morbidity and mortality reports. After much correspondence a court-martial was ordered and Shippen appeared before it at Morristown, N. J., on March 15, 1780. The case was not finally settled until August 18, 1780, when Congress passed a motion to the effect, "That the court-martial having acquitted the said Doctor W. Shippen that he be discharged from arrest." The original motion calling for confirmation or approval of the verdict could not be carried. He remained in Philadelphia until November 24 when Congress ordered him to return to the headquarters of the Commander-in-Chief in the highlands of the Hudson. The medical department had undergone another reorganization by act of Congress on October 6, 1780, and Shippen had been again elected medical director of the army. He reported at army headquarters in December, but resigned his post on January 3, 1781.

Returning to Philadelphia he resumed practice and again took up his teaching. His later years were saddened by the death, in 1798, of his only son, a young man of much promise.

After this event he gave up much of his public activities,

including his practice and his teaching. He died at Germantown near the age of seventy-two years.

He had married in London, about 1760, Alice Lee, of a prominent Virginia family, the sister of Francis Lightfoot, William, Richard Henry, and Arthur Lee.

Shippen's character is one not easily understood. He had marked ability, energy, public spirit, and was gifted with great personal attraction. His mind, however, was of the contemplative type, well fitted to his teaching career but lacking in creative ability. His habits of mind and body did not fit him for the rough experiences of army life in the field. His shortcomings as chief of the medical service were largely due to his disinclination to share in any degree in the hardships of his subordinates. His disposition to avoid by whatever means all personal discomforts and administrative difficulties appears to have brought upon him the stigma of a court-martial. His career as a medical practitioner and as a teacher was distinguished. His lectures and demonstrations in the subject of anatomy were highly effective and his teaching of midwifery effected a revolution in the practice of the city. He unquestionably exerted a marked influence upon the medical profession of his day. Except for his graduation thesis he appears to have written nothing for publication.

[L. C. Duncan *Medical Men in the American Revolution, 1775-1783* (1931). T. H. S. Hamersly *Complete Army and Navy Register of the United States, 1776-1887* (1888). Joseph Carson *History of the Medical Department of the Univ. of Pa.* (1869). *Dictionary of American Biography*, Vol. XVII (1935). J. E. Pilcher *Surgeon Generals of the Army* (1905).]

IV.

JOHN COCHRAN (Sept. 1, 1730 - April 6, 1807), Director General of the Military Hospitals of the Continental Army, Jan. 17, 1781 - Nov. 3, 1783, was born at Sadsburyville, Chester County, Pa., the son of James and Isabelle (Cochran) Cochran. His parents, cousins to some degree, of Scotch Irish descent, had both emigrated from Ireland. The Cochran family, members of the Dundonald clan, crossed from Paisley, Scotland, to Northern Ireland in 1570 and to Philadelphia about 1700. John received his early education in the grammar school of Dr. Francis Alison at New London, near his home. He studied medicine with a Dr. Thompson of Lancaster, Pa., and at the beginning of the French Colonial war in 1755 he joined the Northern army based on Albany. He accompanied the expedition, headed by Colonel John Bradstreet, which captured Fort Frontenac in 1758, and served with the force of Lord Amherst around Lake Champlain in 1759. In the expedition against Fort Frontenac he formed a close friendship with Major (later General) Philip Schuyler, who induced Cochran to settle in Albany for practice after the close of hostilities in 1759. In the next year he married Mrs. Gertrude Schuyler, widow of Peter Schuyler and sister of his comrade in arms. Soon thereafter he removed to New Brunswick, N. J., where he practiced "physic and surgery" with marked success until 1776. He was one of the founders of the New Jersey Medical Society in 1766 and in 1769 became its president. He took an active part in procuring the passage of the act of 1776 to regulate the practice of medicine and surgery in New Jersey, for which he received a vote of thanks from the state society. An early partisan of the colonies in their difficulties with the mother country, Cochran volunteered for duty without pay in the hospital department of the Continental army in the latter part of 1776, and, while still occupying that status, collaborated in February 1777 with Medical Director Shippen of the Flying Camp in a plan for the reorganization of the medical service of the army. This plan, based on that of the British service, received the approval of General Washington who submitted



JOHN COCHRAN

it to Congress from his headquarters at Morristown, N. J., under date of February 14, 1777. At about the same time Washington recommended Cochran to the consideration of Congress in the following terms:

"I would take the liberty of mentioning a gentleman who I think highly deserving of notice, not only on account of his abilities, but for the very great assistance which he has afforded in the course of this winter, merely in the nature of a volunteer. This gentleman is Dr. John Cochran, well known to all the faculty. The place for which he is well fitted and which would be most agreeable to him, is surgeon general of the middle department; in this line he served all of the last war in the British service, and has distinguished himself this winter particularly in his attention to the smallpox patients and the wounded."

In the reorganization that followed the submission of the plan and in accordance with Washington's resolutions, Cochran was appointed on April 10, 1777, physician and surgeon general of the army of the middle department, which included that part of the theatre of war between the Hudson and the Potomac rivers. In this capacity he served through nearly the whole of the next three years, including the trying winter at Valley Forge. Cochran's previous military experience and sound judgment made him Shippen's chief reliance for advice and counsel during the latter's term as director general. He attended the Marquis de Lafayette through a serious illness at Fishkill, N. Y., during the latter part of 1778. In the reorganization of the medical service which took place in the latter part of 1780, Cochran, presumably the author of the plan, was appointed under date of October 6, 1780, chief physician and surgeon under Shippen as director general. On the resignation of the latter on January 3, 1781, there were nominated to Congress to fill the place the names of Cochran, James Craik, John Morgan, and William Brown. On January 17, Cochran was chosen by vote of Congress as Shippen's successor, with Craik promoted to Cochran's former position. These selections were undoubtedly influenced to some extent by a letter from Washington to a member of Congress, dated October 9, 1780, commending a number of medical officers, but singling out Cochran and Craik for the highest commendation.

In contrast with the experience of his three predecessors Cochran served to the end of the war under happy auspices and

to the satisfaction of Congress and the military command. Though his office was with the headquarters in the field, he did not participate directly in the Yorktown campaign, but remained with the northern forces based on West Point. While his term as director general was in the main a happy one, it was not without its problems and troubles. He was immediately faced by a more than ordinary scarcity of medical supplies and by numerous resignations of medical officers. The latter were due somewhat to their unsatisfactory status, but more particularly to the fact that their pay was badly in arrears. Legislation favorable on the whole to the medical service was passed. The medical committee of Congress was abolished and its functions taken over by a Board of War. Promotion by seniority was established by an act of September 20, 1781, and the offices of chief physician and surgeon of the army and chief hospital physician were abolished on January 3, 1782. Inspections of the medical service by officers of the Inspector General's Department were instituted by the act of January 10, 1782, and regulations provided for the operations of the medical purveyor's service.

The relative rank of medical officers was fixed by a resolution of Congress January 3, 1781, providing that those who served to the close of the war should be entitled like other officers to half pay for life, the director to the half pay of a lieutenant colonel and the others except mates, to the half pay of a captain. Cochran's outstanding qualities, those that brought him safely through troubled conditions which wrecked the careers of others, were industry, sound judgment, and unfailing tact. Thacher, the medical historian of Revolutionary days, regarded him highly, saying that "he united a vigorous mind and correct judgment with information derived and improved from long experience and faithful habits of attention to the duties of his profession. He possessed the pure and inflexible principles of patriotism and his integrity was unimpeachable. It is gratifying to have this opportunity to express respectful recollections of his urbanity and civilities and of affording this small tribute to his cherished memory."

He was mustered out of the service November 3, 1783. His home in New Brunswick having been burned by the British troops he took his family to New York City, and there resumed

the practice of medicine. Shortly after Washington became president in 1789, retaining, to use his own words, "a cheerful recollection of his past services," he appointed Cochran to the post of commissioner of loans for the State of New York. This office he held for a number of years, until a paralytic stroke incapacitated him for its duties. He retired to Palatine, Montgomery County, N. Y., where he resided until his death in his seventy-seventh year.

[L. C. Duncan *Medical Men in the American Revolution, 1775-1783* (1931). T. H. S. Hamersly *Complete Army and Navy Register of the United States 1776-1887* (1888). J. Thacher *American Medical Biography* (1828). *Dictionary of American Biography* Vol. IV (1930). *American Medical and Philosophical Biography*, 2d Ed. I (1814). J. E. Pilcher *Surgeon Generals of the Army* (1905).]

V.

JAMES CRAIK (——— 1730 - Feb. 6, 1814), Physician General of the United States Army, July 19, 1798 - June 15, 1800, was born on the estate of Arbigland in the parish of Kirkbean, County of Kirkcudbright, near Dumfries in Scotland. His father, Robert Craik, a member of the British Parliament, had a gardener, John Paul, whose son, born upon the estate emigrated to Virginia and under the name of John Paul Jones became America's most famous naval hero. James Craik is said to have been an illegitimate son, but was acknowledged, protected, and educated by his father. He took his academic and medical training at the University of Edinburgh, joining the medical service of the British army immediately after graduation. In 1751 he went to the West Indies as an army surgeon but resigned soon thereafter, settling in Norfolk, Va., where he began medical practice. Later he removed to Winchester, a frontier village and the base for military operations to the West. On March 7, 1754, he was commissioned surgeon of the Virginia Provincial Regiment, commanded by Colonel Joshua Fry. With this force, later commanded by George Washington, he participated in the capture of the French force at Great Meadows and in the surrender of Fort Necessity to the French. In this campaign began the lifelong friendship of Craik and Washington. In 1755 Craik was with Braddock's army in the ill-fated advance against Fort Duquesne, was in the thick of the battle in which the English were routed by the French under Beaujeu and their Indian allies under De Langlade. He dressed the wounds of Braddock on the field and attended upon him until his death on the following day near Great Meadows. He accompanied the retreating army to Fort Cumberland and later accompanied Washington to Winchester, Va. Here from 1755 to 1758 Washington was in command of the Virginia provincial forces charged with the protection of the Virginia and Maryland frontier from the depredations of hostile Delawares, Shawnees, and Mingos from the valleys of the Allegheny, Muskingum, and the Scioto branches of the upper Ohio. Craik was the chief medical officer and



JAMES CRAIK

shared in all the hardships and privations of these hardy troops until the fall of Fort Duquesne on November 25, 1756. Following this event and the consequent cessation of Indian raids, Craik retired from the army and bought a plantation at Port Tobacco, Maryland, where he established himself for medical practice and built himself an imposing home. Here he brought his bride, Marianne Ewell, of Prince William's County, Virginia, whom he married on November 13, 1760. She was the great-aunt of General Richard S. Ewell of the Confederate army. In 1770 he accompanied Washington on a trip into the Ohio valley for the purpose of examining lands subject to military claims. They journeyed by horseback to Pittsburgh, then down the Ohio by canoe to the mouth of the Big Kanawha, and back by the same route. In 1784 after the close of the Revolution they made a similar journey, this time striking by horseback directly across the Appalachian mountains to the Ohio, thence up that river and the Monongahela, thence southward through the mountains, emerging into the Shenandoah valley near Staunton.

In the midst of his practice at Port Tobacco, Craik took an active interest in the stirring events leading up to the Revolutionary War. As early as 1774 he took an active part in a meeting of Charles County citizens at Port Tobacco in which resolutions were adopted protesting against the blockade of the port of Boston and pledging aid in commercial reprisals against the British. His first service with the Continental army began in 1777 when Washington tendered to him a choice between the positions of physician and surgeon to the hospital or assistant director general in the Middle Department. He chose the latter which gave him the opportunity of serving close to his old-time friend during the war. It was he who in 1778 warned Washington of the so-called "Conway Cabal" to make General Gates Commander-in-Chief. He attended the wounds of General Mercer on the battle field of Princeton and of Lafayette at the Brandywine. When the French under Rochambeau landed at Newport, R. I., Craik established the hospital service for their sick and wounded. In 1780 a reorganization of the medical department made Craik the senior of four holding the title of chief hospital physician and surgeon. With the resignation of Director General Shippen in 1781, Craik was Washington's choice

for the succession but the place went to John Cochran, Chief Physician and Surgeon of the Army, and Craik was advanced to second place with the latter title. In this capacity he served until the close of the war, participating in the final campaign against Yorktown.

With the close of the war, Craik, at the suggestion of Washington, took up his residence in Alexandria, Virginia, and resumed the practice of medicine. He was a frequent visitor at Mount Vernon and attended whatever sickness occurred there. When in 1798 Washington was summoned from his retirement to command the army in a threatened war with France, he made it a condition of his acceptance that he should have the naming of the principal members of his staff. He chose Craik for his chief medical officer, who was appointed physician general on July 19, 1798, with the pay and emoluments of lieutenant colonel but without rank. By 1800 it became a certainty that there would be no war and Congress passed a bill, on May 14, 1800, directing the discharge of nearly all the troops involved in the emergency increase. Craik was mustered out of the service on June 15, 1800, leaving in the medical department but six surgeons and twelve surgeon's mates. For over a decade again it was without a chief.

While Craik was still the army medical chief he had the unhappy duty of attending his old friend and commander in his last illness. On Dec. 13, 1799, he was called to Mount Vernon in attendance upon Washington and found him in a serious condition from a throat ailment upon which was made a diagnosis of "cynanche trachealis", a term denoting what might now be called a streptococci cellulitis of the throat. Dr. Elisha C. Dick of Alexandria was called in consultation and later Dr. Gustave R. Brown of Port Tobacco, Maryland. Despite every effort the condition proved fatal on the evening of the following day.

The only known published writing of Dr. Craik was a pamphlet relating to Washington's illness, *A Sermon Occasioned by the Death of General Washington - - - Preached Dec. 29, 1799, By the Rev. Hezekiah N. Woodruff, A. M. - - - To which is added -An Appendix Giving a Particular Account of the Behaviour of General Washington During his Distressing Illness, Also of the Nature of the Complaint of which he died*, by Doctors James

Craik, and Elisha C. Dick, Attending Physicians (1800).

Craik survived his illustrious friend for fourteen years. He gave up his practice in Alexandria and retired to his nearby estate, *Vaocluse*, where he and his wife lived with his daughter-in-law, Mrs. George Washington Craik, until his death here in his eighty-fourth year. His burial place is in the cemetery of the old Presbyterian meeting house on South Fairfax Street in Alexandria. He was an original member of the Maryland Society of the Cincinnati. His son studied medicine but abandoned a career in that profession to become Washington's private secretary.

[W. B. Blanton *Medicine in Virginia in the Eighteenth Century* (1931). J. Thacher *American Medical Biography* (1828). L. C. Duncan *Medical Men in the American Revolution, 1775-1783* (1931). H. E. Brown *Medical Department of the U. S. Army from 1775 to 1873* (1873). *Dictionary of American Biography*, Vol. IV (1930). J. M. Toner *Medical Men of the Revolution* (1876).]

VI.

JAMES TILTON (June 1, 1745 - May 14, 1822), Physician and Surgeon General of the United States Army, June 11, 1813 - June 15, 1815, was born on a farm in Kent County, Delaware, at that time a part of Pennsylvania. His father, Thomas Tilton, is said to have been descended from John Tilton, who emigrated from England to Lynn, Mass., between 1630 and 1640. His mother, early left a widow, sent him to the Nottingham Academy, Nottingham, Pa., conducted by the Rev. Samuel Finley. Later, after studying under Dr. Ridgely, a prominent physician of Dover, Del., he entered the newly established medical department of the College of Philadelphia where he received the degree of B. M. with the first class graduated by that institution in 1768. He presented a graduation thesis on the physiology of respiration. He established himself for practice at Dover, but returning to his old school was given the degree of M. D. in 1771, his graduation thesis being entitled, *De Hydrope*. When the Revolutionary War broke out he was again a practitioner at Dover and a lieutenant of infantry in the local militia. When the Delaware Regiment, commanded by Colonel John Haslet, was organized, Tilton was appointed regimental surgeon on January 16, 1776. He served with the regiment through that year in the battle of Long Island, at White Plains, at Trenton, and until the regiment was practically wiped out and Colonel Haslet killed at the battle of Princeton on Jan. 2, 1777. He served with the sick and wounded remnant of the regiment in a hospital at Wilmington for the remainder of that winter. On April 3, 1777, he was appointed hospital physician and on April 23 Congress passed the following resolution:

"Resolved, That Dr. James Tilton be authorized to report to Dumfries in Virginia, there to take charge of all Continental soldiers that are or shall be inoculated, and that he shall be furnished with the necessary medicines."

While inoculations for smallpox had been largely practiced since the beginning of the war this resolution and others following which called for the assembling of troops for inoculation



JAMES TILTON

were the first actions taken by Congress in the matter. Following this duty he was placed in command of a hospital established at Princeton, N. J., after the retreat from the battle at the Brandywine in September 1777. While on this duty he contracted typhus which necessitated a sick leave of some months. During this time he visited the military hospitals at Bethlehem, Reading, Lancaster, and elsewhere studying conditions which later formed the basis for the sharpest criticism of military hospital management and of the system that made these conditions possible. He was also outspoken in criticism of the director general being also the purveyor of supplies. During the campaigns of 1775-80 he was in charge of hospitals at Morristown and Trenton, N. J., and at New Windsor, N. Y., at which places he was able to give trial with considerable success, to his pet scheme of small well-ventilated log huts capable of holding but six or eight patients each. In the medical department reorganization of 1780 his name appeared at the head of the list of "hospital physicians and surgeons". In this capacity he conducted a hospital at Williamsburg during the Yorktown campaign and was left in charge of the hospitals at Yorktown after its evacuation following the surrender. He had been largely instrumental in securing the action of Congress on September 20, 1781, providing for promotion by seniority of medical officers. This legislation however, placed hospital surgeons above regimental surgeons, who were given the same rank as hospital mates. Eventually regimental surgeons were given an intermediate position between hospital surgeons and hospital mates.

With the close of hostilities he returned to his practice at Dover. In the meantime he had been offered and had declined the chair of materia medica in his old medical school, reorganized in 1791 as the medical department of the University of Pennsylvania. He served one term (1783-85) in the Continental Congress, and repeated terms as member of the state House of Representatives. From 1785 to 1801 he occupied the position of government commissioner of loans for Delaware.

The climate of Dover not being to his satisfaction, he bought a farm in the hill country back of Wilmington and varied his medical practice with the cultivation of his fields and by an occasional essay on some agricultural subject. In these circum-

stances he continued for years the leading medical man and the most frequently employed consultant in the state.

In February 1813, while the country was at war with Britain, he published a small treatise entitled, *Economical Observations on Military Hospitals and the Prevention and Cure of Diseases Incident to an Army*. It was dedicated to General John Armstrong, secretary of war, and embodied his observations during the Revolutionary War and repeated his former recommendations regarding the construction and administration of military hospitals. Probably as a result of this publication he was offered the position of physician and surgeon general of the army, an office created by a reorganization of the staff departments under an act of March 3, 1813 (2 Stat. 819). On account of his age he was loath to accept the appointment, but did so upon being assured that his duties would be chiefly executive in character and that he would not be required to serve in the field. His appointment was confirmed by the Senate to date from June 11, 1813. At the same time Dr. Francis Le Barron of Massachusetts was appointed apothecary general. In the meantime under date of May 1, 1813, the President caused to be issued *Rules and Regulations for the Army*, and therein were prescribed the duties of the chief medical officer as follows:

"It shall be the duty of the Physician and Surgeon General to prescribe rules for the government of the hospitals of the army, to see these enforced, to appoint stewards and nurses, to call for and receive returns of medicine, surgical instruments and hospital stores, to authorize and regulate the supply of regimental medical chests, to make out general half year returns of these and of the sick in hospital to the War Department, and yearly estimates of what may be wanted for the supply of the army.

"The apothecary general shall assist the Physician and Surgeon General in the discharge of the above mentioned duties, and shall receive and obey his orders in relation thereto."

One of his first acts after assuming office was to make a tour of inspection of the hospitals and camps along the northern frontier. Here he found that all the lessons of sanitation learned from the bitter experience of the last war had been forgotten. In both camp and hospitals he found such utter contempt for sanitary measures and such dire results of this

neglect that immediate action was necessary. By moving the hospitals and establishing new ones and by the elimination of incompetent personnel he was able to do much in improving these unsatisfactory conditions. His efforts to improve hospital conditions and to rehabilitate the medical and hygienic service of the army resulted in the publication of the *Regulations for the Medical Department* issued in general orders of December 1814.

This, the most important result of his administration, defined clearly for the first time the duties of medical officers and other sanitary personnel. With the end of the war in the spring of 1815, the army was greatly reduced by the act of March 3, 1815 (3 Stat. 224), and the office held by Tilton was terminated June 15, 1815. During the later months of Tilton's term of office his usefulness was greatly impaired by the development of a malignant tumor of the knee. On December 7 following his relief from office it became necessary to perform a thigh amputation in order to prolong his life. Despite his seventy years and his previous suffering, he withstood the pre-anaesthetic era agonies of the amputation with the utmost fortitude and even counseled with the operator and his assistants concerning the details of the operation.

The remaining years of his life were passed in the stone mansion he had built overlooking the city of Wilmington, his time occupied by the supervision of his fields and gardens. Here he died near the end of his seventy-seventh year.

After Yorktown, the Delaware troops were brought back from duty in the Carolinas and went into camp at New Castle awaiting discharge. The officers of this camp, with others, met at Wilmington, where following the example set by officers in other states, they formed on July 4, 1783, the Delaware State Society of the Cincinnati, and elected Tilton its first president. He held this office until 1795 and was delegate to the general meetings of the Society of the Cincinnati from 1784 to 1793.

He was a member of the American Philosophical Society and of his state medical society, which he served as president for years. He was not a prolific writer. Aside from his doctorate theses and his *Economical Observations*, his published writings were limited to four pamphlets on agricultural subjects.

Tilton was outstanding both in appearance and in character. He stood six and one-half feet tall, was spare in build and notably dark of hair and complexion. Though he never married, he was of a sociable nature and was companionable with all ages. He was especially generous in his friendships with the younger members of the medical profession of his community. Despite an absolute honesty, positive views, and unusual frankness of speech, he does not appear to have made active enemies. He was a man of many eccentricities, few of which seem to have been of a displeasing character.

[H. E. Brown *Medical Department of the U. S. Army from 1775 to 1873* (1873). L. C. Duncan *Medical Men in the American Revolution, 1775-1783* (1931). H. H. Bellas *History of the Delaware Society of the Cincinnati* (1895). F. J. Tilton *History of the Tilton Family in America*, Vol. I (1928). J. T. Scharf *History of Delaware*, Vol. 1 (1858).]



JOSEPH LOVELL

VII.

JOSEPH LOVELL (December 22, 1788 - October 17, 1836), Surgeon General of the United States Army, April 18, 1818 - Oct. 17, 1836, was born in Boston, Mass., the son of James S. and Deborah (Gorham) Lovell. His father attained the grade of major in the Continental army during the Revolutionary War and his grandfather, James Lovell, was an active member of the Whig organization in Boston before the Revolution, and was a member of the Continental Congress from 1777 to 1782. He was one of the prime movers in the scheme to supplant General Washington as commander-in-chief by General Horatio Gates. He was an original member of the Massachusetts Society of the Cincinnati.

Joseph Lovell obtained his early education in the Boston schools, after which he entered Harvard College, where he graduated in 1807. He began the study of medicine with Dr. William Ingalls of Boston and was graduated from the Harvard Medical School in 1811, with the first class to receive the degree of M. D. With the practical certainty of a second war with Britain, Congress passed an act on January 11, 1812 (2 Stat. 671), increasing by thirteen regiments the military forces of the country, and providing a surgeon and two surgeon's mates for each regiment. On May 15, 1812, Lovell was appointed major and surgeon, 9th Infantry. With an unusually thorough medical education, he early became an outstanding medical officer. When, late in 1812, the troops were moved to the Canadian border, general hospitals were established at Plattsburg, N. Y., and at Burlington, Vt., Lovell was detached from his infantry regiment and placed in command of the Burlington Hospital. During this time, while the hospitals as a whole came under severe criticism the Burlington Hospital was held up as a model of what a hospital should be. Lovell attracted attention not only as a skilled practitioner but as an officer of marked executive ability. In recognition of his exceptional service he was selected for appointment to the grade of hospital surgeon on June 30, 1814. During the latter part of the war his longest

service was in the hospital at Williamsville, N. Y., which received the casualties for the operations along the Niagara river.

In 1817, Lovell, then chief medical officer of the Northern Department, addressed to Major General Jacob Brown, the department commander, a letter dealing with the *Sick Report of the Northern Division for the Year ending June 30, 1817*, in which he discussed not only the cause of disease in the army, but also gave his views upon the duties of medical officers and their responsibility for the sickness occurring among the troops.

During the winter and spring of 1818 Congress was engaged on a bill for the reorganization of the staff of the army. This bill, passed April 14, 1818 (3 Stat. 426), repealed certain previous legislation in regard to the medical department and carried the following section:

"Section 2. And be it further enacted, That there shall be one Surgeon General, with a salary of two thousand five hundred dollars per annum, one assistant surgeon general with the emoluments of a hospital surgeon * * * and that the number of post surgeons be increased not to exceed eight to each division."

Pursuant to this legislation Lovell was appointed Surgeon General to date from April 18, 1818, with Hospital Surgeons Tobias Watkins and James C. Bronaugh, assistants, one for each of the two divisions of the army. Apothecary General Le Baron was retained in his old position. Though only in his thirtieth year, his services in the hospitals on the northern frontier during the war and his appreciation of the needs of the service as evidenced by his reports made Lovell the logical choice for head of the service. Thus was established for the first time a permanent medical department organization. For the first time a career medical officer was made chief of the service. All of the former chiefs had been appointed to meet the emergency of war, real or expected, with an organization to serve the forces in the field. Again, for the first time was bestowed upon the service chief the title of surgeon general, which has survived to the present day. Immediately following Lovell's appointment the following order was issued by the War Department:

"Adjutant and Inspector General's Office

April 21, 1818.

General Orders.

All reports, returns and communications connected with the Medical Department will hereafter be made to the Surgeon General's Office in Washington.

All orders and instructions relative to the duties of the several officers of the Medical Staff, will be issued through the Surgeon General, who will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

The Assistant Surgeon Generals will forthwith commence the inspections of the Medical Department in their respective divisions agreeably to the instructions they receive from the Surgeon General.

By order.

B. Parker,

Assistant and Inspector General."

Lovell saw as an early duty the revision of the Medical Regulations. The regulations of December 1814 had been superseded by those of April 24, 1816, but these were defective in that they were not adapted to the new organization or to the provisions of the order quoted above. The result was the *Regulations of the Medical Department, September 1818*. In his first report to Secretary of War Calhoun in November 1818, he dwelt upon the difficulty of obtaining from medical officers compliance with orders, particularly in regard to reports and returns. In reply the Secretary called upon him for recommendations for the improvement of the medical service. Lovell began his recommendations with the statement that the first requisite was to make the position of a medical officer such that he would place some value upon the retention of his office, at that time held in low esteem. Recruitment of officer personnel was difficult and the retention of suitable men even more so. He asked an increase in the number of medical officers and an increase in their pay and allowances. With officers with a sense of responsibility he promised appreciable economies in medical supplies. He recommended further that the Apothecary General be authorized to make all purchases of medical supplies and that purchasing officers be bonded for the proper application of public funds. Though no immediate legislation ensued, the changes advocated were all brought about during Lovell's term of office.

On March 2, 1821 (3 Stat. 615), Congress passed an act reducing the army and reorganizing the staff corps. Section 10

defined the future medical staff as follows:

"And be it further enacted, That the medical department shall consist of one surgeon general, eight surgeons with the compensation of regimental surgeons and forty-five assistant surgeons with the compensation of post surgeons."

Thus was abolished the old system of titles which had stood since the Revolution, with the substitution of a new system which was to last for nearly ninety years, though military rank and titles came in 1847. This reorganization brought about the discharge of the Apothecary General and his assistants. In 1825 a new edition of the Medical Regulations was issued. It was essentially the same as that of 1818, except as to phraseology to conform to the new designations of the medical officers. The office of Assistant Surgeon General was changed to that of Medical Director of Department and the duties of the Apothecary General and his assistants were assigned to officers detailed to the purveying department. An important addition was a paragraph calling for the examination by a board of three medical officers of all applicants for the position of assistant surgeon. This provision was not put into effect until after the issue by the War Department of General Orders, No. 58, July 7, 1832, which defined the requisites for appointment. Thus was initiated the foremost factor in the high professional standing of the corps to the present day. An act of Congress of June 30, 1834 (4 Stat. 714), confirmed the provisions for entrance examinations and fixed the pay and allowances of medical officers relative to those of other officers of the service.

A dangerous crisis developed in 1830, when, in the midst of agitation for retrenchments, Secretary of War Eaton suggested the abolition of the office of Surgeon General. In a letter to Congress in support of his administration, Lovell was so far successful that he not only saved his own office but obtained an increase in the number of officers in the corps.

During Lovell's term of office occurred the Black Hawk War and the beginning of the long continued struggle with the Seminoles of Florida. In 1832, incident to the trouble with the Sacs and Foxes in Illinois and Wisconsin, troops were sent to that section by way of Buffalo and the Great Lakes. Cholera broke out on two boats enroute from Buffalo to Chicago. The

troops were debarked in the vicinity of Detroit and put into camp. Nearly four hundred cases developed with eighty-eight deaths. The Seminole War began on Dec. 28, 1835, when the Indians, under Osceola, ambushed and destroyed two companies of the 4th Infantry under command of Major Dade. The anxieties incident to furnishing medical service for the troops collecting for the punitive campaign weighed heavily upon Lovell. He established a medical supply depot at Tampa and a general hospital at St. Augustine. He asked for an increase of medical officers and a small addition was authorized on July 4, 1835. The report of June 4 with its request for additional officers was his last important act. His wife, to whom he was deeply attached, died about this time and the double burden of anxieties was too much for an always delicate constitution. He died in Washington on Oct. 17, 1836, near the end of his forty-eighth year.

Less than thirty years of age and with but six years of service when he became Surgeon General, Lovell's eighteen years' tenure of office were marked by constant improvement in the efficiency of the service and in the status of the officers of the corps. With a wholesome pride in his office and in the service which he represented, he strove to foster that same pride throughout the corps and to render the military establishment conscious of its obligations to the medical service. Quite beyond the medical department he rendered conspicuous service to every branch and department of the army. More than any other person he was responsible for the abolition of the whiskey ration which was making drunkards throughout the army. He was largely instrumental in the passage by Congress of a bill by which unsuitable and inefficient officers could be eliminated from the army by action of a board of officers. From his personal observations he was able to make recommendations which brought about notable improvements in the ration and clothing of the soldier. One of his first acts as Surgeon General was to require from all army posts quarterly reports by the medical officers on weather conditions and on the incidence and causes of diseases. The compilations of these reports have high historic value. The weather reports thus begun were the beginning of the present Weather Bureau. A notable service by

Lovell was the encouragement and official assistance which he gave to Surgeon William Beaumont in the study of gastric physiology. The year 1836 is given as the time when in Lovell's office was begun the collection of books which was to become the Army Medical Library.

Lovell's death, preceded by a few months by that of his wife, Margaret Mansfield Lovell, left an orphaned family of eleven children. A son, Mansfield Lovell, graduated from West Point and became a major general and corps commander in the Confederate army.

In 1842, the officers of the medical corps testified to their appreciation of Lovell's services to them and to their personal esteem for him by the erection of a handsome monument over his grave in the Congressional Cemetery in Washington.

[F. F. Harrington *Harvard Medical School*, Vol. II (1905). H. E. Brown *Medical Department of the U. S. Army from 1775 to 1873* (1873). J. E. Pilcher *Surgeon Generals of the Army* (1905). *Dictionary of American Biography*, Vol. II (1933). *National Intelligencer*, Washington, Oct. 19, 1836.]



THOMAS LAWSON

VIII.

THOMAS LAWSON (August 29, 1789 - May 15, 1861), Surgeon General, Nov. 30, 1836 - May 15, 1861, was born in Virginia, in Princess Anne County or in the nearby part of southern Norfolk County. He was the son of Thomas and Sarah (Robinson) Lawson, the grandson of Colonel Anthony Lawson and of Colonel Tully Robinson, and descended from Anthony Lawson who came to Virginia from Londonderry, Ireland, about 1668. The Lawson family and its affiliates were for two centuries prominent in the two counties which make up the southeastern corner of the state. No information is available in regard to his early education or of his medical studies, hence it is probable that he studied with the practitioners of his home community. However obtained, his medical education was completed early, for at nineteen years he entered the navy on March 1, 1809, as a surgeon's mate. After two years of shipboard life he resigned on January 12, 1811, and in the following month, on February 8, 1811, he was appointed to the position of garrison surgeon's mate in the army. On May 21, 1813, he was promoted to the post of surgeon, 6th Infantry, in which position he went through the War of 1812. With the reduction and reorganization of the army at the close of the war he became surgeon of the 7th Infantry on May 17, 1815. Upon the reorganization of the medical department in 1821 his name appeared upon the roll as the senior officer in the grade of surgeon and remained so until his advancement to Surgeon General in 1836. During his early service in the field with the 6th Infantry, he won the official commendation of Hospital Surgeon Mann, the medical director, for his attention to the wounded and for his courage under fire, particularly during the investment of Plattsburg by the British forces. His high relative rank in the corps insured him an interesting and varied service. In 1832 he was president of a board of medical examiners which visited practically every post in the army for the purpose of holding entrance and promotion examinations in accordance with War Department orders which prescribed for the first time these examinations for the

corps. He had a decided inclination toward field service and was much disappointed when his application for duty with the forces operating against Black Hawk in 1833 was disapproved. As in the case of many other medical officers his garrison duty was varied by details as adjutant, quartermaster, or even as a company commander. His qualities of military leadership were recognized when, following the Seminole outbreak, a regiment of volunteer infantry was raised in Louisiana with Colonel P. F. Smith in command and Lawson was tendered the office of lieutenant colonel. He served in this capacity with credit from Feb. 5, 1836, until the regiment was mustered out on May 15 following. With the concentration of troops for the Seminole War he was appointed medical director with headquarters at Fort Mitchell, Alabama, where he was serving when he was appointed Surgeon General on November 30, 1836.

Surgeon General Lovell died on Oct. 17, 1836, and there immediately followed a movement to appoint a civilian in his place, the claims of Dr. Henry Hunt, a hospital surgeon in the War of 1812, being very strongly advocated. It is said that Dr. Hunt refused the office when tendered him by President Jackson. The army was almost unanimous for Lawson, senior officer of the corps, and he was appointed on Nov. 30, 1836. He arrived in Washington only in the late spring of 1837 and was then detailed to accompany ex-President Jackson to his home. Other duties incident to the Seminole War kept him away from his Washington office until May 1838. Assistant Surgeon Benjamin King had charge of the office during the absence of the chief. The years between the Seminole War and the Mexican War were relatively uneventful ones for the office of the Surgeon General. However, Lawson had some very definite ideas for the improvement of the service and battled valiantly for them. He was able to obtain for the corps military rank, two increases in numbers, improved uniform, stewards enlisted in the department, and increased pay for soldiers detailed to it for duty. In 1839 there was issued the first volume of *Army Medical Statistics* prepared by Assistant Surgeon Samuel Ferry. It embraced the sickness and mortality of the corps from 1819 to 1839, the medical topography and meteorology of the various posts, a report on the construction and condition of the bar-

racks and hospitals, and other information in reference to prevailing diseases and their treatment.

There was a small reduction in officer personnel in 1842, following the close of the Seminole campaign. The clouds of war were gathering again however, and in 1845, with a concentration of troops at Corpus Christi, Texas, medical depots were established at this place and at New Orleans. The bombardment of the American camp across the river from Matamoras, by the Mexicans in that town on May 6, 1846, precipitated the Mexican War. Surgeons P. H. Craig, and C. A. Finley were at different times medical director of the troops operating in Northern Mexico.

In December 1846 Lawson left Washington for New Orleans, where General Scott was preparing plans for the capture of Vera Cruz. In February 1847 he accompanied General Scott as chief of his medical staff to Lobos Island where troops were gathering for the attack on Vera Cruz. On Feb. 11, 1847, Congress passed an act to increase the army temporarily (9 Stat. 124), which act gave an increase in medical officers, and at the same time gave for the first time definite military rank to medical officers.

Lawson accompanied General Scott from Vera Cruz to Mexico City, but only in an advisory capacity, Surgeon B. F. Harney being the medical director. In the medical service of this campaign Surgeons R. S. Satterlee, C. S. Tripler, and J. J. B. Wright played the leading parts. With the cessation of hostilities Lawson returned to his office in Washington, which had been under the charge of Surgeon H. L. Heiskell. On May 30, 1848, he was given the brevet rank of brigadier general for meritorious conduct in the late war. For more than a decade following, Lawson filled the office of chief, years of comparative tranquility after the strenuous ones of his earlier service. In July 1856 appeared a second volume of *Medical Statistics* with much the same class of information brought up to date. This volume brought forth general and generous commendation from the medical profession. Other equally valuable contributions to science were the *Meteorological Register* of 1826 to 1830 and that from 1831 to 1842. The first volume of this series, covering the years 1822 to 1825, had been published by Surgeon General Lovell in 1826. Though

Lawson is credited with the authorship of these volumes on medical statistics and meteorology, they were in fact compiled by officers of his staff to whom full credit was given at their time of issue. In 1850 Lawson obtained authority for representation of the Army Medical Corps at meetings of the American Medical Association and Surgeon C. S. Tripler attended the Cincinnati meeting that year as a delegate. Legislation passed August 16, 1856 (11 Stat. 51), increased the number of medical officers, provided for the appointment or enlistment of hospital stewards, and for extra pay for special duties in hospitals. A third volume of *Medical Statistics* was issued in 1860. The closing years of Lawson's term were clouded by the oncoming shadows of the Civil War. On January 1, 1861, the corps consisted of one surgeon general, thirty surgeons and eighty-three assistant surgeons. Of these, within a few months, twenty-four resigned to enter the Confederate service and three more were dismissed for disloyalty. The fall of Fort Sumter broke upon Lawson in his seventy-second year and found him in impaired health. With a situation which called for all his abilities and experience he was compelled to leave his office and seek treatment at Norfolk, Va. He entered the home of Dr. Daniel C. Barraud, where on May 15 he was stricken with apoplexy and died within a few hours. He served his country's military establishments for fifty years, twenty-four as Surgeon General. With him passed from the corps the last of the participants in the War of 1812.

Lawson was a man of originality of intellect, of unflagging industry, with an intense enthusiasm for the military service. He had a high sense of the usefulness of the medical service and a determination to gain for it every consideration to which it had a right. There were at the time numerous glaring wrongs to be righted and he was in good measure successful in their elimination. He was also implacable in his pursuit of medical officers whose actions he considered discreditable to the corps. These traits in his character brought him into frequent conflict with his superiors in the War Department and with his subordinates in the service; but he was dismayed neither by display of authority on the one hand nor by the threats of political influence on the other. In consequence, while he was universal-

ly held in respect, he never was able to gain the confidence and affection of his subordinates, a gift which was possessed in high degree by Surgeon General Lovell. But it can be said with confidence that no other member of the corps of his day could have carried on the persistent and successful fight for the right of rank for his corps as did Lawson. For this and for his other notable services it is easy to forget his lack of graciousness and personal charm.

Though credited with having been something of a beau, he never married. However, during his long years in Washington he kept house in a large mansion in a fashionable district to the west of the White House.

[H. E. Brown *Medical Department of the U.S. Army from 1775 to 1873* (1873). P. M. Ashburn *History of the Medical Department of the U. S. Army* (1929). W. B. Atkinson *Phys. and Surgs. of the U.S.* (1873). J. E. Pilcher *Surgeon Generals of the Army* (1905). Kelly and Burrage *American Medical Biographies* (1920). *Evening Star* (Wash. D. C.) May 20, 1861.]

IX.

CLEMENT ALEXANDER FINLEY (May 11, 1797 - Sept. 8, 1879), Surgeon General, May 15, 1861 - April 14, 1862, was born at Newville, Cumberland County, Pa. His father, Samuel Finley, served in the Virginia cavalry during the Revolutionary War attaining the grade of major. President Washington appointed him receiver of public moneys in the northwest, which position took him to Chillicothe, Ohio, about 1796, where he received a large allotment of land for his Revolutionary War service. Here the son spent his childhood and youth and here obtained his early education. With the educational facilities of Chillicothe exhausted, he was sent to Carlisle, Pa., near his birthplace, to Dickinson College where he was graduated in 1815. He then went to Philadelphia where in 1818 he was given the degree of M. D. by the University of Pennsylvania. His father's military service attracted him to the army, which had recently emerged from the War of 1812-15, and on August 10, 1818, he was commissioned as a surgeon's mate of the 1st Infantry. The forty-three years that intervened before he became Surgeon General were filled largely with routine garrison duty, but included much field service in the wars of the period. His first assignment carried with it four years with his regiment in Louisiana, then two years in what was then the wilds of Arkansas, at Fort Smith. In the years from 1825 to 1828 he served at Fort Gibson, Arkansas, in Florida, at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri, and at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

Following this he passed three years at Fort Dearborn, Illinois, where he saw the beginning of Chicago's marvelous growth. In 1831 he was ordered to Fort Howard, Wisconsin, and while on this duty he was detached for service as chief medical officer of the forces operating under General Winfield Scott in the Black Hawk War of 1833. He served a year with the 1st Dragoons in Florida, then two years again at Jefferson Barracks. In 1834 he was again sent to Florida where he served throughout the Seminole War until 1838. With hostilities over he was sent to Fortress Monroe, Virginia, for a year, and then



CLEMENT ALEXANDER FINLEY

to Buffalo, N. Y., for another year. From 1840 to 1844 he served at Carlisle Barracks, Pa., where he renewed his acquaintance with his alma mater, Dickinson College. The outbreak of the Mexican War found him again at Fortress Monroe, from where he was sent in 1846 to the army which was invading Mexico across its northern border. By virtue of his rank he became medical director of this army commanded by General Zachary Taylor, but shortly after was sent north on account of sickness. During this detached service he acted as member of a number of examining boards. In 1847 he returned to duty in Mexico with the army, under General Scott, which was invading the country by way of Vera Cruz. He was medical director of this force until again sickness required that he be sent north. He was permanently relieved from Mexico duty and ordered to Newport Barracks, Kentucky. In 1849 he went to Jefferson Barracks for a third tour of duty and in 1854 to duty in Philadelphia with his quarters at Frankford Arsenal. The years upon this detail largely involved work on examining boards and it was on this sort of duty that he was engaged when in 1861 he received the appointment to the office of Surgeon General. Surgeon General Lawson's death came unexpectedly and it was generally considered that his successor would be Surgeon Robert C. Wood, a high ranking officer who was in charge of the office during Lawson's absence. Wood was son-in-law to former President Taylor and brother-in-law to Jefferson Davis and from his long duty in the War Department had many other influential friends. But a new political party was now in control and President Lincoln chose Finley, the senior officer of the corps, for the coveted place on May 15, 1861. Finley retained Wood as his assistant and their relations appear to have been entirely cordial.

The new Surgeon General was sixty-four at the time of appointment, but was in good physical condition and entered the office keen for the heavy duties devolving upon him. Beyond his office work he was busy in the furtherance of legislation and in the selection of hospital buildings and sites in the capital city. It is difficult at this time to determine to what extent Finley influenced the policies and legislation affecting the medical department during his term of office. The Sanitary Commission

was active with criticism and recommendations and had high influence with Congress. The act passed on August 3, 1861 (12 Stat. 288), increasing the number of officers and providing for the employment of medical cadets and female nurses was no doubt in response to recommendations from both the office of the Surgeon General and the Sanitary Commission. The act also provided for the creation of boards for the consideration of cases of disability. A provision for two assistants to the Surgeon General with the rank of lieutenant colonel, contained in the original bill, was stricken out.

On April 16, 1862, an act was passed (12 Stat. 378) for the reorganization of the medical department which gave the Surgeon General the rank of brigadier general, created an assistant Surgeon General and a medical inspector with rank of colonel, eight medical inspectors with the rank of lieutenant colonel, and provided for medical purveyors. This was the first time when actual rank in the medical department had exceeded the grade of major, except that the Surgeon General had the grade of colonel. But Finley was not to achieve the advanced grade, as he was retired on his own application on April 14, 1862, two days before the passage of the act. He had incurred the displeasure of Secretary of War Stanton by a hospital appointment and after a heated interview with the Secretary had been relieved from his office and directed to repair to Boston and await orders. From Boston he appealed against the treatment accorded him, but despite the efforts of influential friends no action could be obtained and hopeless of justice and redress he applied for admission to the retired list. In the meantime, and until the appointment of his successor, Surgeon Wood performed the duties of Surgeon General.

After his retirement Finley made his home in West Philadelphia, where he passed eighteen peaceful years and where he died on September 8, 1879. In the meantime, in 1865, he was given the brevet rank of brigadier general "for long and meritorious service in the army."

General Finley was a notably handsome man, six feet tall, of good figure and good military bearing. During most of his service he wore the so-called military beard in a fashion that few could achieve. He was a talented physician and was ab-

sorbed in the care of his patients. During the Black Hawk War he received the official thanks of General Scott for his handling of the cholera outbreak in the command. His whole career was marked by conspicuous and efficient service. Any estimate of his personal achievements as Surgeon General is obscured by the presence of a highly able assistant and a meddlesome Sanitary Commission.

In 1832 he married Elizabeth Moore, daughter of Dr. Samuel Moore, at that time director of the United States Mint at Philadelphia and formerly member of Congress from Bucks County, Pa.

[H. E. Brown *Medical Department of the U. S. Army from 1775 to 1873* (1873). J. E. Pilcher *Surgeon Generals of the Army* (1905). W. P. Atkinson *Physicians and Surgeons of the U.S.* (1878). G. V. Henry *Military Records of Civilian Appointments* (1873). *Appleton's Cyclopedia of Amer. Biog.*, Vol. II (1887).]

X.

WILLIAM ALEXANDER HAMMOND (Aug. 28, 1828 - Jan. 5, 1900), Surgeon General, April 25, 1862 - August 18, 1864, was born at Annapolis, Md., the son of Dr. John W. and Sarah (Pinkney) Hammond, members of two old Maryland families of Ann Arundel County. When he was about five years old the family moved to Harrisburg, Pa., where his early education was completed at a local academy. He began the study of medicine at sixteen and at twenty was given the degree of M. D. by the medical department of the University of the City of New York. After a year of internship in the Pennsylvania Hospital in Philadelphia, he settled in Saco, Me., for the practice of medicine. He stayed there but a few months when he took the examination for the army medical service and was appointed as assistant surgeon on July 29, 1849. Shortly thereafter he was sent with a body of troops to New Mexico, where during the following three years he served at nine different posts and was engaged a large part of the time in operations against the Indians. After a sick leave spent in study in Europe he was stationed at West Point and later at Fort Meade, Florida, and Fort Riley, Kansas. While at Fort Riley he served as medical director of a large force operating against the Sioux Indians and was medical officer with an expedition which located a road to Bridger's Pass in the Rocky Mountains. From Fort Riley he was transferred to Fort Mackinac in Michigan. During this first ten years of service he devoted his spare hours to physiological and botanical investigation and in 1857 he published an exhaustive essay *Experimental Research Relative to the Nutritive Value and Physiological Effects of Albumen Starch and Gum, when Singly and Exclusively Used as a Food*, which was awarded the American Medical Association Prize.

His growing reputation attracted the attention of the authorities of the University of Maryland and on October 31, 1860, he resigned from the army to accept the chair of anatomy and physiology in the medical school in Baltimore. Here he taught with marked success and practiced his profession until the out-



WILLIAM ALEXANDER HAMMOND

break of the Civil War. As surgeon to the Baltimore Infirmary he attended the wounded men of the 6th Massachusetts Infantry, who while marching to the defense of Washington were fired upon by a Baltimore mob. He resigned his professorship and on May 28, 1861, he reentered the army as an assistant surgeon at the foot of the list upon which he had formerly held high place. His first Civil War service was as medical purveyor at Frederick, Md. Later he organized the Camden Street Hospital in Baltimore and was then transferred to the command of General Rosecrans in West Virginia where he was made inspector of camps and hospitals. His work in this field attracted the favorable attention of the Sanitary Commission, which, dissatisfied with the administration of the medical service of the army, urged the removal of the incumbent head and the appointment of Hammond in his place. Surgeon General Finley's break with Secretary Stanton brought the opportunity, and despite strong backing for the acting Surgeon General, Colonel R. C. Wood, and a candidate put forward by Secretary Stanton, Hammond was appointed Surgeon General on April 25, 1862. Colonel Wood failing in his greater ambition, asked for the appointment as assistant Surgeon General, which upon Hammond's approval was given him. Shortly, however, friction developed between the two and Wood was relieved from duty in the office, though he retained the title of assistant Surgeon General until October 31, 1865. Major Joseph R. Smith was brought into the office to fill Wood's position. The year and a half of Hammond's actual tenure of the office was marked by an administration of high efficiency and by many important accomplishments. These included a new and vastly enlarged supply table and the provision of hospital clothing for patients.

There was a general reorganization of boards of examiners for entrance to the corps and increased standards for applicants. A new and complete system of hospital reports was introduced, furnishing an amount of information later invaluable in the preparation of the medical history of the war. On May 21, 1862, he directed the organization of the Army Medical Museum and the collection of specimens and material for its exhibition. It was during his term that the most definite program was made in the construction and equipment of military hospitals. That

he was a man of vision is evidenced by the highly constructive recommendations that he made, all of which in the fullness of time have come into realization. He recommended the formation of a permanent hospital corps, the establishment of an army medical school, the establishment of a permanent general hospital in Washington, the autonomy of the medical department in the construction of hospitals and the transportation of supplies, and the institution of a military medical laboratory. It was inevitable, however, that the masterful personality of Hammond would excite the disapproval of such an autocratic spirit as Secretary Stanton. Their official and personal relations early became strained and there was constant friction in the conduct of business between the two officers. This situation culminated in orders issued in the latter part of August 1863 relieving Hammond from charge of the Washington office and directing him to duty inspecting sanitary conditions in the Department of the South with his headquarters in New Orleans. On Sept. 3, 1863, medical inspector general Joseph K. Barnes was placed in charge of the Surgeon General's office. The anomalous situation in which he was placed caused General Hammond to demand the restoration of his office or trial by court-martial. In consequence he was tried on charges and specifications alleging his involvement in irregularities incident to the purchase of medical supplies. The prosecution was pushed with bitterness and apparent personal animosity. It is said that the finding of the court-martial was for acquittal, but that this finding was disapproved and a reconsideration directed which resulted in a verdict of guilty and a sentence of dismissal from the army. The dismissal took effect August 18, 1864.

Upon leaving the army Hammond found himself in straitened circumstances from the expense of his trial. With the help of friends he was able to establish himself in practice in New York, and in a short time he became a leader in the practice and teaching of neurology, a specialty then in its infancy. Soon after his arrival in New York he was appointed lecturer on nervous and mental diseases in the College of Physicians and Surgeons. He resigned this position in 1867 to accept the professorship of the same subjects which had been created for him in the faculty of Bellevue Hospital Medical College. In 1874 he

transferred to a like professorship in the medical department of the University of the City of New York. At other times he was on the faculty of the University of Vermont at Burlington and of the Post Graduate Medical School of New York, of which he was one of the founders.

In 1878, then at the height of his success and popularity, he started a campaign for vindication of his conduct of the office of Surgeon General. Under an act of Congress approved March 15, 1878 (20 Stat. 511), he was restored to the army and placed upon the retired list as Surgeon General with the grade of brigadier general, without pay or allowances, on August 27, 1879. In 1888 he moved to Washington where he established a large sanatorium for the care of cases of nervous and mental diseases. It became necessary for him gradually to limit his professional work on account of a cardiac ailment from which he died at his Washington home on Jan. 5, 1900. During his later years he became much interested in the therapeutic employment of animal extracts and did much to instruct the medical profession in their use.

Throughout his career Hammond was a facile writer. While carrying the responsibilities of Surgeon General he found time to write a *Treatise on Hygiene, with Special Reference to the Military Service* (1863). The most noteworthy of his other medical works were: *On Wakefulness: With an Introductory Chapter on the Physiology of Sleep* (1866), *Sleep and Its Derangements* (1869), *Physics and Physiology of Spiritualism* (1871), and *Insanity in its Medical Relations* (1883). In 1871 he published his *Treatise on Diseases of the Nervous System*, a well written book largely based on the lectures of Charcot. This was announced as "the first text-book of nervous diseases in the English language." He was also a playwright and novelist. For a time he was editor of the *Maryland and Virginia Journal*, published in Richmond and Baltimore. In 1867 he established the *Quarterly Journal of Psychological Medicine and Medical Jurisprudence*, of which he was editor until 1875. He also co-operated (1867-1869) in the founding and editing of the *New York Medical Journal* and of the *Journal of Nervous and Mental Diseases* (1867-1883).

General Hammond was a pioneer in the field of nervous

and mental diseases in the United States. American neurology began with the Civil War, from the experiences gained by Hammond, S. Weir Mitchell, and William W. Keen. He was a dominant personality in any field he entered, attracting a following and developing active enemies. From a certain penchant for theatrical action he could not escape entirely from a reputation for charlatanry. Personally he was an uncommonly large man, six feet two inches in height, and of two hundred and fifty pounds weight. He had a powerful voice, a pleasing delivery, and a flow of language which made him a popular speaker. He was married twice: in July 1849 to Helen Nisbet, daughter of Michael Nisbet of Philadelphia, and in 1886 to Esther T. Chapin.

[H. E. Brown *Medical Department of the U. S. Army from 1775 to 1873* (1873). P. M. Ashburn *History of the Medical Department of the U.S. Army* (1929). *The Post Graduate*, N. Y., May 1900. J. E. Pilcher *Surgeon Generals of the Army* (1905). Kelly and Burrage *American Medical Biographies* (1920). *Dictionary of American Biography*, Vol. VIII (1932).]



JOSEPH K. BARNES

XI.

JOSEPH K. BARNES (July 21, 1817 - April 5, 1883), Surgeon General, August 22, 1864 - June 30, 1882, was born in Philadelphia, Pa., the son of Judge Joseph Barnes, a native of New England, who served for many years as Judge of the district court of that city. He received an academic education at Round Hill School at Northampton, Mass., and entered upon a collegiate course at Harvard University. Compelled by ill-health to leave college before graduation he began the study of medicine with Surgeon (later Surgeon General) Thomas Harris of the navy, and received his medical degree from the University of Pennsylvania in 1838. After graduation he served a year as resident physician at Blockley Hospital and for another year as visiting physician for the northwestern district of Philadelphia. He then appeared before an army examining board which was meeting at the time in Philadelphia and pursuant to its recommendation he was commissioned an assistant surgeon on June 15, 1840, and was assigned for his first duty to the West Point Military Academy. After only a few months of this duty he was ordered, Nov. 19, 1840, to accompany a detachment of recruits to Florida, where hostilities were in progress against the Seminole Indians. For the two following years he served successively at eight posts in that state, much of the time giving professional service to two or more posts at the same time, owing to the shortage of medical officers. Notable in his field service of this period was that involved while accompanying General Harney's expedition through the Everglades. In 1842 he was assigned to Fort Jesup, La., where he remained until 1846, when with the beginning of the Mexican War he joined the 2d Dragoons en-route to Corpus Christi to join the army being mobilized for the invasion of Mexico from the north. He served with the cavalry column of General Taylor's army during its advance to Monterey. Later transferred to General Scott's forces before Vera Cruz he served with General Worth's division during the siege and capture of that city. During the advance upon Mexico City he was chief surgeon of the cavalry brigade and participated in the

battles of Cerro Gordo, Contreras, Cherubusco, and Molina del Rey, in the storming of Chapultepec and the capture of the capital. From Mexico City he was ordered to duty at Baton Rouge, La., in 1848. During the thirteen years that intervened between this time and the Civil War, Barnes saw a service which took him to widely separated parts of the country. In the south he served at Fort Croghan and other posts in Texas, in the plains country at Fort Scott, Fort Leavenworth, and Camp Center (now Fort Riley), on the Pacific coast at San Francisco, Fort Vancouver and the Cascades, while between times he saw tours of duty at Baltimore, Fort McHenry, Philadelphia, and West Point. In the meantime he had been promoted to major and surgeon on August 29, 1856.

The shelling of Fort Sumter found him at Fort Vancouver. He was immediately ordered east and served successively as medical director of the forces under General David Hunter, medical director of the Western Department, and medical director of the Department of Kansas, all of these assignments pertaining to the troops operating in Missouri. On May 2, 1862, he was ordered to report to the Surgeon General in Washington and upon reporting was assigned to duty as attending surgeon for the city.

While on this duty he formed the acquaintance of Secretary of War Stanton who quickly gained a highly favorable impression of him. The friendship which ensued lasted throughout their careers and had profound effects, not only upon the future activities of Barnes, but upon the fortunes of the medical service.

On February 9, 1863, Barnes was appointed a medical inspector with the rank of lieutenant colonel, and with station in Washington. On August 10, 1863, he was further advanced to the position of medical inspector general with the grade of colonel. It was but a few weeks after this advancement that the difficulties between Stanton and Surgeon General Hammond culminated in the detachment of the latter from his office. On September 3, 1863, Barnes was by a special order of the War Department "empowered to take charge of the bureau of the Medical Department of the army and to perform the duties of Surgeon General during the absence of that officer." He assumed the office of acting Surgeon General the following day

thus beginning one of the longest and most eventful administrations in the history of the office. On August 22, 1864, he was advanced to the position of Surgeon General, with the grade of brigadier general and on March 13, 1865, he received the brevet of major general for faithful and meritorious service during the war.

Secretary Stanton, now having a Surgeon General of his own choice and one personally acceptable to him, became as solicitous for the medical service as he had hitherto been inimical. For the remainder of his term of office he exhibited the greatest interest in the health and hygienic conditions of the army, in the comfort and welfare of the sick and wounded, and in efforts to extend the facilities and opportunities of the medical officers. Such a situation tended to make easy the problems of the new Surgeon General. As principal assistant, Barnes brought to his office Major Charles Henry Crane, who continued in the capacity throughout the eighteen years of his term and succeeded to the office upon the retirement of his chief.

The work of collecting material for the Medical Museum and for the *Medical and Surgical History of the War of the Rebellion* was pushed vigorously during the years 1863 and 1864. The question of the military control of general hospitals was a vexing one from the beginning of the war. A War Department order of April 7, 1862, placed them under the supervision of the Surgeon General, but was not sufficiently explicit in its provisions regarding the right of command of the medical officers in charge of these hospitals. It was not until December 27, 1864, that the question was finally settled by General Order No. 306, confirming the medical officer's right to command in his own sphere of action.

The good will of Secretary Stanton was again shown by an order of February 8, 1865, giving to the medical department entire control of hospital transports and hospital boats. *The Medical and Surgical History of the War of the Rebellion* was first suggested by Surgeon General Hammond in a circular to medical officers inviting cooperation in the collection of material. In 1865 there was issued by the Surgeon General a report upon the extent and nature of the material available for its preparation. Since 1862 Major Joseph J. Woodward had been in charge of

the Army Medical Museum and of the material for the history. In 1866 Major George A. Otis was brought into the office and he and Major Woodward were charged with the preparation of this great work.

Four of the six monumental volumes were completed under General Barnes' administration and the other two were far advanced at the time of his retirement. His regime was further notable for the interest he took in the development of the Army Medical Library. During his term of office, the library, under the supervision of Major John S. Billings, was expanded from a small collection of text-books to first rank among medical libraries of the country.

An epoch making event was the appearance in 1880 of the first volume of the *Index Catalogue*, edited by Billings, the continuance of which has brought world wide fame and acclaim to the library and to the medical department.

In the reorganization of the army following the Civil War, General Barnes was successful in retaining for the medical department the same proportion of the several grades of officers as existed during the conflict. This was not accomplished without a protracted struggle against various proposals which would have seriously crippled the department.

General Barnes was a handsome man of fine physique and attractive personality. Gifted with tact and diplomacy he possessed to a high degree the quality of inspiring confidence and friendship. These qualities stood him in good stead during the early years of his administration and were fruitful in benefits for the medical department. It fell to his lot to share in the professional care of two murdered presidents. At the time of the assassination of President Lincoln and the attempted assassination of Secretary Seward he attended the death bed of the one and ministered to the successful restoration of the other. During the long illness of President Garfield he was one of the surgeons who for weeks served in the chamber of the dying president. The protracted service and anxiety incident to the care of the latter took heavy toll on Barnes' health. An Act of Congress passed June 30, 1882 (22 Stat. 118), providing for compulsory retirement for age found Barnes nearly a year past the statutory age and he was retired on June 30, 1882. A chronic

nephritis of which he was a subject for some time caused his death at his home in Washington on April 5, 1883. His remains lie in Oak Hill Cemetery, Washington, D. C. His wife, who was Mary Fauntleroy, daughter of Judge Fauntleroy, of Winchester, Va., survived him.

[H. E. Brown *Medical Department of the U S. Army from 1775 to 1873* (1873). P. M. Ashburn *History of the Medical Department of the U.S. Army* (1929). J. E. Pilcher *Surgeon Generals of the Army* (1905). Kelly and Burrage *American Medical Biographies* (1920). *History of American Biography*, Vol. I (1928). G. V. Henry *Military Records of Civilian Appointments* (1873).]

XII.

CHARLES HENRY CRANE (July 19, 1825 - Oct. 10, 1883), Surgeon General, July 3, 1882 - October 10, 1883, was born at Newport, R. I., the son of Captain (later Colonel) Ichabod Bennett Crane of the Artillery Corps. His childhood was spent in army posts until he was sent to the Maple Grove Academy in Middletown, Conn., to prepare for entrance to Yale where he later received the degree of B. A. in 1844.

In 1847 he had completed his medical course at Harvard and was given the degree of M. D., at the same time receiving the degree of M. A. from Yale. His heart for a long time set upon a military career, he lost no time in presenting himself before an army examining board and in November 1847 he was appointed an acting assistant surgeon to await a vacancy to which he might be appointed. In this capacity he was sent to Vera Cruz with a detachment of recruits, arriving February 20, 1848. In the meantime, on February 14 he was given a permanent commission as assistant surgeon. After six months' service with an artillery regiment in Mexico he was ordered to New York and shortly thereafter to Fort Pickens in Florida. In 1849 he was at Key West, Florida, and for the next three years participated in campaigns against the Seminole Indians. In 1852 he went by boat to San Francisco accompanying a shipment of recruits. For four years he served on the west coast in California and Oregon. Much of this duty was in the field, first against hostile Indians in the Sacramento and Merced valleys in 1852 and against the Indians of Rogue River in Oregon in 1856. For his services in the latter campaign he was highly commended by his commanding officer. Returning to New York in December 1856 he was detailed assistant to the medical purveyor in that city, with additional duties of attending surgeon and examiner of recruits. He was on this duty until January 1862. In the meantime, in September 1859, he accompanied General Winfield Scott on a trip to the Pacific coast. On May 21, 1861, he was promoted to the grade of major and surgeon.

In February 1862 he was detailed as medical director of the



CHARLES HENRY CRANE

Department of Key West and in June of that year he became medical director of the Department of the South. In July 1863 he was ordered to Washington for duty in connection with prisoners of war and in September, when Colonel Barnes was made acting Surgeon General, Crane was appointed executive officer and principal assistant in his office. From that time, for eighteen years until he became Surgeon General himself in 1882, he was the wheelhorse of the office to whom duties of all kinds and in all amounts could confidently be given. Though relieved from the office, Colonel R. C. Wood retained the rank and title of assistant Surgeon General until the end of the war and it was not until the reorganization act of July 28, 1866 (14 Stat. 334), that Crane could be appointed assistant Surgeon General with the rank of colonel, though for three years he had been performing the duties of that office. Crane was of the greatest assistance to Surgeon General Barnes, relieving him of the routine of the office and giving to him the opportunity to exercise the tact and diplomacy of which he was master and of which there was so much need in dealings with Secretary Stanton, Congress, and the Sanitary Commission. In connection with the arduous and exacting work incident to the war, Crane combined remarkable executive ability with sound judgment and a delicate sense of justice and right. He was without doubt a considerable factor in the degree of discipline and efficiency displayed by the medical department in the later years of the war. On January 1, 1865, he was given brevets of lieutenant colonel and colonel, and on March 13 the brevet of brigadier general "for faithful and meritorious service during the War of the Rebellion."

With the retirement for age of General Barnes in 1882, there was a general movement toward the succession among the senior officers of the corps. Colonel J. H. Baxter was a conspicuous candidate, but on July 3, 1882, Crane was given the much sought place. The new honor brought little change in his duties. As chief he showed the same patient, earnest, and punctilious attention to the business of the office which for years he had shown as assistant. He had the gratification of seeing finished the surgical part of the *Medical and Surgical History of the War of the Rebellion* and of getting well under way the

final medical volume. Owing to the death of Major Otis in 1881, Major D. L. Huntington prepared the final surgical volume and, following the death of Major Woodward in 1884, the completion of the last medical volume was assigned to Major Charles Smart. His term of chief of the service was destined to be a short one. He developed a malignant ulcer at the base of his tongue, the outlook for which was hopeless; but he died unexpectedly from a hemorrhage at his home in Washington on October 10, 1883, at the age of fifty-eight years. His body was taken to Shelter Island, Long Island, N. Y., for burial.

General Crane was a man of an unusually kind and generous spirit, combined with a quiet and dignified manner. His portrait shows a fine high forehead, clear wide set eyes, a large aquiline nose, and a patriarchal beard which could have few equals.

At the time of his death he was a commissioner of the United States Soldiers' Home and on the visiting staff of the Government Hospital for the Insane and of the Columbia Hospital.

He was a primary member of the Aztec Club of 1847, an hereditary society of officers of the United States Army, formed in the City of Mexico in that year, and which still exists. He is wearing the insignia of this society in his portrait in the Army Medical Library.

He had been married on July 18, 1861, at Shelter Island, N. Y., to Sarah Payne Nicoll, of that place, who survived him for nearly thirty years. One son also survived him.

[J. E. Pilcher *Surgeon Generals of the Army* (1905). P. M. Ashburn *History of the Medical Department of the U.S. Army* (1929). Appleton's *Cyclopedia of American Biography*, Vol. II (1887). G. V. Henry *Military Records of Civilian Appointments* (1873). Kelly and Burrage *American Medical Biographies* (1920).]



ROBERT MURRAY

XIII.

ROBERT MURRAY (August 6, 1823 - January 1, 1913), Surgeon General, November 23, 1883 - August 6, 1886, was born at Elkridge, Maryland, then in Anne Arundel County. He was the son of Daniel and Mary (Dorsey) Murray, of Scotch descent. He was educated in the local schools of his community and attended the University of Maryland. His medical training was obtained at the University of Pennsylvania where he graduated in 1843. Following a year in Baltimore hospitals he took the examination for the army medical service, was appointed an acting assistant surgeon early in 1846, and was commissioned an assistant surgeon on June 29 of the same year. After a short service at Fort Gratiot, Mich., he was ordered to duty on the Pacific coast, which he reached after months of sea voyaging around the Horn. For four years he served in California at Los Angeles, Monterey, and Camp Far West. In October 1850 he returned east to Fort Independence in Boston harbor where he spent two years, followed by two years in New York City. Returning to California in April 1854 he remained there until the outbreak of the Civil War, when, in June 1861, he was ordered to Washington, D. C., where he participated in the organization of the early hospitals in Washington and Alexandria. While on this duty he was married to Adelaide Atwood of Gardiner, Maine. In the meantime he had been promoted to captain on June 29, 1851, and to major and surgeon on June 23, 1860. In September 1861 he was ordered to Kentucky to the Army of the Ohio, then under organization. Though appointed medical director of the department he took the field with the headquarters of the army, now the Army of the Cumberland, serving successively with Generals Anderson, Sherman, Buell, and Rosecrans. He arrived with Buell's army on the field of Shiloh on the second day of the battle and, as he was the ranking medical officer in the combined armies, he became the medical director of the entire force, aggregating fifty thousand men. He continued as medical director of the Army of the Cumberland until December 1862, when he was ordered to duty in Philadelphia as

medical purveyor where he remained until the close of the war.

The depot which he commanded here was the principal purchasing agency in the country for medical supplies. In this duty which involved the expenditure of millions of dollars he showed executive ability of a high order. On the 13th of March 1865 he was given the brevets of lieutenant colonel and colonel for meritorious service during the war, and on July 28, 1866, with the reorganization of the army, he was appointed an assistant medical purveyor with the grade of lieutenant colonel. In July 1866, he was again ordered to the Pacific coast as medical purveyor at San Francisco, upon which duty he remained for the following eleven years. On June 26, 1876 he was promoted to the grade of colonel and the following year he was transferred to the post of medical director of the Division of the Missouri at Chicago. In 1880 he went to the Division of the Atlantic at New York as medical director.

As the ranking colonel of the medical department he automatically became the assistant Surgeon General on December 14, 1882, following the advancement of General Crane to the higher office. With the sudden death of the latter in 1883 there was the usual keen rivalry for the succession; but President Arthur solved the problem by deciding to advance the senior officer to the vacancy, and Murray became Surgeon General on November 23, 1883. The few years of his incumbency in that high office were comparatively uneventful ones. General Murray was of a naturally conservative disposition with his thoughts more directed toward the preservation and improvement of existing conditions than to the initiation of new movements. It may be said of his regime that it was a contented one and that the interests of the department did not suffer during his term of office. It was a time of scientific awakening in the corps, coincident to a similar phenomenon in the profession at large. General Murray's report of 1884 mentions for the first time in such reports the subject of antisepsis and antiseptic surgery. Operations were being performed under antiseptic technique in army hospitals as early as 1883, a time when Lister was still a subject of ridicule in London. Bacteriology and hygiene of modern type were exciting attention. In his report of 1885, Murray, in discussing the sanitation of posts, suggested the prob-

ability of water supplies as carriers of disease germs, and recommended the disposal of garbage by incineration. In this year he was instrumental in sending Major Sternberg to Rome as a delegate to the International Sanitary Conference.

General Murray was retired on account of age on August 6, 1886, after which he took up his residence in his ancestral home at Elkridge. With this as his headquarters he spent most of his later life in travel, spending years at a time in Europe. He died in Baltimore of pneumonia on New Year's day of 1913, at the age of ninety years. With his death there passed away the last of the prominent medical officers of the Civil War, the last who had held the title of medical director in that conflict. His death left but three officers on the retired list whose service dated back to the time of the Mexican War. Like his predecessor in office, General Murray was a primary member of the Aztec Club of 1847: Military Society of the Mexican War. He was its president from 1911 to 1912.

[J. E. Pileher *Surgeon Generals of the Army* (1905). Kelly and Burrage *American Medical Biographies* (1920). *Records of Living Officers of the U.S. Army* (1884). *Alum. Reg. U. of Penn.* (1912-13). *Medical Annals of Maryland 1799-1899* (1903).]

XIV.

JOHN MOORE (August 16, 1826 - March 18, 1907), Surgeon General, November 18, 1886 - August 16, 1890, was born at Bloomington, Indiana, the son of Garrett Moore and Catherine English. He attended Indiana State University where he was graduated with the degree of A. B. in 1845. After medical courses at the University of Louisville Medical Department in 1848-49 and at the medical department of the University of the City of New York in 1849-50 he graduated from the latter school in 1850. After one year internship in Bellevue Hospital and two years with the New York Dispensary he took the examination in 1853 for the army medical service and was commissioned as assistant surgeon on June 29 of that year.

His first station was Fort Myers, Florida, where he served until November 1856. He next was ordered to Fort Independence in Boston harbor where he stayed until July 1857, at which time he was detailed to duty with troops en route to Utah in connection with difficulties arising between the Government and the officials of the Mormon church. His station was at Camp Floyd, Utah, until October 1861, though in the meantime he saw field duty from August to October 1859, and from June to October 1860, in connection with Indian depredations. He was promoted to the grade of captain on June 29, 1858.

With the beginning of the Civil War he was brought east and assigned to duty in the Marine Hospital at Cincinnati, Ohio, where he served until August 1862. Having been promoted to the grade of major on June 11, 1862, he was transferred to the Army of the Potomac and assigned as medical director of the Central Grand Division. He held this position until February 1863, in the meantime participating with his division in the second battle of Bull Run, Antietam, and the disastrous attack at Fredericksburg. Promoted to the position of medical director of the 5th Corps in the Army of the Potomac he served in this capacity at the battle of Chancellorsville. His next assignment in June 1863 took him to the Department of the Tennessee as medical director, which position he held until November 1864.



JOHN MOORE

During his tenure of this office the troops under Rosecrans fought the campaign against Chattanooga with the battles of Chickamauga and Lookout Mountain, and General Sherman conducted his march upon Atlanta. From November 1864 to June 1865 Moore was successively medical director of the Army of Georgia and Tennessee and of General Sherman's army in southern Georgia. With the close of hostilities he was assigned as medical director of the Military Division of the Missouri with station at St. Louis until November 1865, when he was transferred to Vicksburg, Miss., as medical director until August 1866. Meanwhile he had been given the brevet rank of lieutenant colonel on Sept. 1, 1864, "for gallant and meritorious service in the Atlanta campaign," had been made colonel of volunteers on February 25, 1865, a commission he held for five months, and had been given the brevet rank of colonel on March 13, 1865, "for faithful and meritorious service during the war."

In the autumn of 1866 he was transferred to New York harbor where he served for two years at Fort Wadsworth and Fort Columbus. The years from 1868 to 1880 were passed mainly in New York City as attending surgeon and on various board assignments. During this tour of duty in New York he availed himself of a long leave of absence for travel in Europe. It was also broken by a short assignment to the office of medical director of the 1st Military District at Richmond, Va., in 1870, and by a year as medical director of the Department of Texas in 1875-76. In 1880 he was assigned to duty as medical director of the Department of the Columbia with headquarters at Fort Vancouver, Washington. On October 8, 1883, he was promoted to the position of assistant medical purveyor with the grade of lieutenant colonel, and was transferred to duty in San Francisco where he served until 1886 when he was appointed Surgeon General.

During the latter days of the administration of Surgeon General Murray the various candidates for the succession were busy aligning their supporters and strengthening their claims for consideration. Colonel Baxter was the senior officer of the corps and Colonel Sutherland had the greatest number of years' service. Major Huntington, well down the list, had served two Surgeon Generals as principal assistant and had edited with

distinguished credit the last surgical volume of the *Medical and Surgical History of the War of the Rebellion*. These were apparently the leading candidates; Moore, a lieutenant colonel, was seventh in the lineal list and was one of the least insistent of the candidates. The appointment was delayed for three and a half months, during which time Colonel Baxter, as the senior officer, occupied the position of acting Surgeon General. A new political party had recently come into power and new influences were at work, so it came as a distinct surprise when President Cleveland appointed Moore to be Surgeon General with the grade of brigadier general on November 18, 1886.

In addition to retaining Colonel Baxter as his principal assistant he brought into the office Major Charles R. Greenleaf and Major Charles Smart, forming a trio of strong and capable men who helped much toward the improvement of the medical service and toward the success of his administration. By a General Order No. 86, issued from the War Department on November 20, 1886, instruction in first aid was introduced throughout the army. The instruction was directed to be by lecture and demonstration and reports of results achieved were required from the medical officers giving the instruction. Following and as a result of this order there appeared a succession of small manuals of first aid by medical officers of the service, usually combined with a manual of drill for the newly authorized Hospital Corps. The first of these manuals, which appeared early in 1888, was written by Lieutenant J. E. Pilcher, followed soon thereafter by those of Majors Heizmann, Hoff, Havard, and Woodhull and by that of Captain Dietz. The law authorizing the formation of the Hospital Corps was passed by Congress March 1, 1887 (24 Stat. 435), the corps to be filled by transfers of men from the line of the army, and Army General Orders No. 56 were issued August 11, 1887, promulgating rules and regulations for the government of the Hospital Corps. This was a truly great event in the history of the department. The corps thus authorized and initiated has developed into the splendid corps of enlisted noncommissioned officers and privates of which the department is justly proud. On January 17, 1887, the Army and Navy General Hospital in Hot Springs, Ark., was opened with sixteen beds for officers and sixty-four for enlisted men.

It was owing to General Moore's insistence that the monthly sanitary report was made of practical value. The provision of Army Regulations, revised July 15, 1885, in regard to the sanitary report directed its transmission to the War Department by post commanders. Insistence upon this provision not only added to the quality of the reports but assisted materially in the sanitary improvements of the posts.

General Moore was popular with the medical profession at large. During his long tour of duty in New York City he had formed a wide acquaintance with the profession of that city. The cordiality of the regard in which he was held was manifested at a dinner given in 1887 by the New York Practitioners' Society for him and the Surgeon General of the Navy. The dinner was a striking tribute, not only to the two honor guests but also to the interest of the civilian profession in the military branch. A similar interest was evident in the meetings of the military section of the Ninth International Medical Congress held in Washington later in the same year.

General Moore was retired, upon reaching the statutory age, on the 16th of August 1890. He continued his residence in Washington, where for years he maintained vigorous health and an active life. He was a large, broad-shouldered man with a powerful physique and a fine soldierly bearing. In his later years he developed arterio-sclerosis and an interstitial nephritis which caused his death at his home on March 18, 1907, in his eighty-second year.

His funeral from St. Matthew's Church was notable for the attendance of high government officials. He was buried in Arlington Cemetery.

He was married in New York City on June 22, 1873, to Mrs. Mary Jane Dolan, widow of Michael F. Dolan of Roxbury, Mass. He was survived by his wife and one daughter, the wife of W. A. Thompson, an officer of the cavalry arm.

[J. E. Pilcher *Surgeon Generals of the Army* (1905). *Military Surgeon* 1908, pp. 219-221. *N. York M. J.* 1907, p. 559. *J. A. M. A.* 1907, p. 1053. *Washington papers*, March 19-20, 1907.]

XV.

JEDEDIAH HYDE BAXTER (March 11, 1837 - Dec. 4, 1890), Surgeon General, August 16, 1890 - December 4, 1890, was born at Strafford, Orange County, Vermont, the son of Porter and Ellen Janette (Harris) Baxter. His early education was obtained in academies at South Woodstock and St. Johnsbury in his native state after which he attended the University of Vermont at Burlington where he received the degree of B. S. in 1859 and that of M. D. in 1860. After graduation he went to New York City where he saw some service as resident physician at Bellevue and Blackwell's Island hospitals. With the outbreak of the Civil War he volunteered for service and was commissioned as surgeon of the 12th Massachusetts Volunteers on June 26, 1861.

In this capacity he served with the Army of the Potomac from July 27, 1861, to April 4, 1862, when he was appointed major and surgeon of volunteers and assigned to the duty of brigade surgeon. Later that year he was ordered to Washington and placed in charge of Campbell General Hospital and still later in that year he was assigned to duty in the newly organized Provost Marshal General's Bureau as chief medical officer, a position which he filled for the remainder of the war and until the completion of the records of that office. It appears that during a portion of this period he had some duties as a medical purveyor. On March 13, 1865, he received the brevet of colonel of volunteers for "faithful and meritorious service during the war."

Incident to the reorganization of the army following the war Baxter was appointed by President Johnson an assistant medical purveyor with the rank of lieutenant colonel, to fill an original vacancy, dating from July 20, 1867. His acceptance vacated his volunteer commission and brought to the regular corps a remarkable personage who strongly influenced the affairs of the medical department for the next quarter of a century. He was given the brevet of colonel in the regular establishment on the same date as that of his appointment to the corps. There



JEDEDIAH HYDE BAXTER

is no evidence that Baxter served outside of Washington after 1862. He was appointed chief medical purveyor with no change in grade on March 12, 1872, and was promoted to colonel and chief medical purveyor on June 23, 1874. Appointed to this position during the administration of Surgeon General Barnes, he continued through the terms of General Crane, General Murray, and General Moore. He early developed an understandable ambition to head the medical department, and with each successive vacancy he not only was a candidate but was always strongly supported for the place.

It was urged against him that he had entered the corps as a lieutenant colonel instead of as a lieutenant as had his competitors and that though he held high rank in the corps he had much less service than many who were his juniors on the lineal list. It was further urged that he had entered the service without the professional examination which had been required of others. Considerable heat and bitterness were aroused in each of the contests and they were each time settled by the advancement of the senior ranking officer of the corps. With his comparative youth Baxter could wait his turn for the place.

As chief medical purveyor his work was of high advantage to the service. Medical supplies were of better quality and more abundant in quantity. He increased markedly the professional literature furnished to medical officers and was sympathetic to requests for instruments and appliances from those proposing to make special research. In addition to the work of his office he carried on an active medical practice. His professional clientele included several presidents and their families, and he had a large following among senators, congressmen, and other government officials. His alleged methods in obtaining a clientele that would assist in furthering his military ambitions were the subject of considerable criticism from civilian physicians who accused him of unethical practices. He was the medical attendant at the White House during the early part of the administration of President Garfield and considerable comment was aroused by his failure to be included among the surgical attendants following the fatal wounding of the President. Whatever the cause of this neglect or to whom it may be charged the incident provoked a high degree of resentment among Baxter's friends. Even the

additional activity of a busy practice did not fill Baxter's time as he would have it filled, so he took up the study of law and after a full course at the Law School of the Columbian University he was graduated with the degree of LL. B. With the retirement of Surgeon General Moore in 1890, circumstances were highly propitious for Baxter. A fellow Vermonter, the Hon. Redfield Proctor, was secretary of war and Benjamin Harrison, the President, was a long-time patient and friend. There was no real contest for the place and Baxter was appointed Surgeon General on August 16, 1890. He had shown excellent administrative ability in the conduct of the supply department and while waiting for the high place to which he at last achieved he had been laying plans for far-reaching and comprehensive improvements in the department. There can be no doubt that he would have made every effort to bring his plans to realization but hardly more than four months after his appointment he suffered a paralytic stroke on December 2, 1890, at his home in Washington and died two days later at the age of fifty-three years. His funeral from All Souls Church was attended by all official Washington with a long list of the highest officers of the army and navy as honorary pallbearers. He was buried in Arlington Cemetery.

Thus terminated the career of one of the most colorful personalities that the medical service has produced. Physically he was of medium height and strongly built. He was a good friend and a good hater, a man of strong personal attraction and equally strong prejudices. It is said that when he was made Surgeon General there was a general shake-up in the stations of the corps with a view to the reward of friends and the discipline of the unfavored. Particularly notable is his work with the Provost Marshal General's Bureau. Entering upon this duty when in his twenties, he won early recognition by his high intelligence and industry. He acquired the most detailed knowledge of the work of the bureau, including a personal acquaintance with practically every officer on duty with it.

He prepared the two-volume *Medical Statistics of the Provost Marshal General's Bureau*, published by the Government in 1875. This work, which presents the results of the examination of over a million men, contains also a discussion of anthro-

pometry, recruiting regulations of other governments, and reports from medical officers of the bureau, including not only their special work but also the topography and diseases of their districts.

As a representative of this office he attended the Boston meeting of the American Medical Association in 1865. Beside the local medical societies he was a member of the Public Health Association, the Boston Gynecological Society, and the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences. He contributed some papers to the transactions of these societies and to medical periodicals.

He was married on March 9, 1876, at Boston, Mass., to Florence Tryon, daughter of William Tryon of that city, who survived him. They had no children.

[J. E. Pilcher *Surgeon Generals of the Army* (1905). P. M. Ashburn *History of the Medical Department of the U.S. Army* (1929). W. B. Atkinson *Physicians and Surgeons of the U.S.* (1878). A. Y. P. Garnett *Exposition of Facts* (1877). *Records of Living Officers of the Army* (1884).]

XVI.

CHARLES SUTHERLAND (May 29, 1829 - May 10, 1895), Surgeon General, December 23, 1890 - May 29, 1893, was born in Philadelphia, the son of Joel Barlow and Mary (Read) Sutherland, of Scotch ancestry. His father, a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania Medical School, served in the War of 1812, first as an assistant surgeon and later as lieutenant colonel of an infantry regiment. Later he studied law, became a member of the state legislature, a member of Congress (1825-1837), and still later judge of the court of common pleas in Philadelphia. He was the first president of the Society of the War of 1812, of which Society General Sutherland himself was at one time the historian.

The son received the best educational advantages afforded by the private schools of Philadelphia and his medical education at Jefferson Medical College where he was graduated in 1849. He passed the examination for the medical corps of the army in 1851 and after ten months of service as an acting assistant surgeon he was commissioned as assistant surgeon on August 5, 1852. His first stations were Fortress Monroe and Jefferson Barracks. At the latter post he had the experience of an outbreak of cholera among the troops.

From this post he went with an exploring party which located the site for Fort Riley in Kansas and developed a shorter route for the overland trail to Santa Fe, New Mexico. He remained in New Mexico for the next five years, serving for various periods at Forts Webster, Fillmore, Craig, Stanton, and Santa Fe, and participating in much field service against the Apache and Comanche Indians.

In October 1859 he went to Fort Moultrie, S. C., where he remained for a year, after which he was ordered to Texas where he served at Forts Davis and Duncan on the Mexican border. He was on this duty when the Civil War broke out. The garrison with which he was serving succeeded in avoiding capture by the Confederate forces and secured boat transportation to New York. Reporting to the War Department he was sent with a force to



CHARLES SUTHERLAND

reinforce the garrison holding Fort Pickens in Florida. During his year of service at this post it was subjected to two bombardments and an assault by Confederate forces from Forts Barrancas and McRee, the other defenses of Pensacola harbor which had been captured by the Confederate arms.

For his efficiency in handling the medical service in these engagements Sutherland received special commendation from General Harvey Brown, commanding the fort. He was promoted to the grade of major and surgeon on April 16, 1862, and at about the same time assigned to duty at Fort Warren, Mass., then a prison camp for the captured Confederate officers who were held there to the number of several hundred.

In June 1862 he was ordered to report to General Halleck at Corinth, Mississippi, and assigned to duty as medical purveyor for the armies concentrated in that center of military activity. In the pursuance of this duty he established a medical depot at Columbus, Kentucky, with supplies for the two hundred thousand men whom it was estimated would make up General Halleck's armies. A second large depot was organized at Memphis, Tenn., where he fitted out nine general hospitals with a capacity of three thousand beds for the casualties among the troops along the Mississippi and equipped a floating hospital of eight hundred beds for use at Milliken's Bend near Vicksburg, then under siege by General Grant. He was with the headquarters of Grant's army before Vicksburg for some months, serving as assistant medical director and inspector of camps and hospitals of the Army of the Tennessee. His duties consisted in the sanitary inspection of camps, transfer of wounded to transports for northern hospitals, and the supply of medicine and hospital stores. He participated in the battles of Jackson and Champion Hills, having general supervision of the field hospitals established for these engagements.

After the fall of Vicksburg he was transferred east to the position of medical director of the Department of Virginia in North Carolina under General John G. Foster, and later in the same year to Annapolis, Maryland, as medical director of hospitals and parole camp. In May 1864 he was ordered to Washington and assigned as medical purveyor for the Army of the Potomac and for the hospitals in and around Washington. He

served to the end of the war on this duty which involved the supply of one hundred and fifty thousand men in the field and of twenty hospitals with a bed capacity of thirty thousand patients. For such a service large warehouses were required, with a large force of workmen to handle the flow of incoming and outgoing supplies. During Sutherland's incumbency of this office he disbursed over four million dollars without loss or question.

With the reorganization of the army at the close of the Civil War, Sutherland had the backing of Surgeon General Barnes and of General Grant for one of the positions of medical purveyor which was given him with the grade of lieutenant colonel on July 28, 1866. For the next thirteen years he divided his time between the New York and Washington medical purveying depots, meanwhile receiving the promotion to the grade of colonel on June 26, 1876. From 1879 to 1884 he served as medical director of the Division of the Pacific at San Francisco and from 1884 until his appointment as Surgeon General, as medical director of the Division of the Atlantic at New York.

Following the death of Surgeon General Baxter in December 1890, there were the usual number of candidates for the vacated place but President Harrison followed the precedent broken only in recent years by the selection of General Moore and appointed the senior officer in the person of Colonel Sutherland to be Surgeon General on December 23, 1890. Major Pilcher describes his administration as being "conservative and progressive," which can be interpreted that General Sutherland's office was as progressive as the conservative temper of the War Department of his day would allow.

With a continuing interest in medical supply he gave the medical department a new field equipment but deprived the medical officer of a personal equipment which he had formerly been issued. The organization of the enlisted medical personnel into detachments began about this time and it was during General Sutherland's term, in 1891, that Captain (later Colonel) John Van R. Hoff organized the first company of instruction for the Hospital Corps at Fort Riley, Kansas. Captain Hoff applied the term Hospital Corps to these enlisted men but the name was not officially authorized until 1901.

General Sutherland was a large and powerful man, standing over six feet two inches and of corresponding bulk. He was of a kind and amiable disposition, a good friend and an attractive companion. He was highly popular with the junior officers of the corps. He was retired by reason of reaching the age limit on May 29, 1893. He continued to make his home in Washington where he died suddenly of angina pectoris on May 10, 1895, in his sixty-sixth year.

He was married on November 3, 1869, in Montgomery County, Maryland, to Elizabeth Wirt Brewer, who with seven children survived him. He had been previously married to Kate Brewer who died in November 1866.

[J. E. Pilcher *Surgeon Generals of the Army* (1905). P. M. Ashburn *History of the Medical Department of the U. S. Army* (1929). G. V. Henry *Military Records of Civilian Appointments* (1873). *Records of Living Officers of the Army* (1884). Kelly and Burrage *American Medical Biographies* (1920).]

XVII.

GEORGE MILLER STERNBERG (June 8, 1838 - Nov. 3, 1915), Surgeon General, May 30, 1893 - June 8, 1902, was born at Hartwick Seminary, Otsego County, N. Y., where he spent most of his childhood. His father, Levi Sternberg, a Lutheran clergyman who later became principal of Hartwick Seminary, was descended from a German family from the Palatinate, which had settled in the Schoharie valley in the early years of the eighteenth century. His mother, Margaret Levering (Miller) Sternberg, was the daughter of George B. Miller, also a Lutheran clergyman and professor of theology at the seminary, a Lutheran school. George was the eldest of a large family and it was necessary for him to lift from his father's shoulders as much as he could of the burden of its support. His studies at the seminary were interrupted by a year of employment in a bookstore in Cooperstown and by three years of teaching in neighboring rural schools. During his last year at Hartwick he was an instructor in mathematics, chemistry, and natural philosophy, and at the same time was pursuing the study of medicine with Dr. Horace Lathrop of Cooperstown. For his medical studies he went first to Buffalo, N. Y., and later to the College of Physicians and Surgeons of New York where he received the degree of M. D. in the spring of 1860. Following graduation he settled in Elizabeth, New Jersey, for practice and remained there until the outbreak of the Civil War. He was appointed an assistant surgeon in the United States Army on May 28, 1861, and on July 21 of that year he was captured at the Battle of Bull Run, while serving with General George Sykes' division. He was able to escape and soon joined his command in the defense of Washington. Later he participated in the Peninsular campaign and saw service in the battles of Gaines' Mill and Malvern Hill.

During this campaign he contracted typhoid fever while at Harrison's Landing and was sent north on a transport. During the remainder of the war he performed hospital duty, mainly at Portsmouth Grove in Rhode Island, and at Cleveland, Ohio. On March 13, 1865, he was given the brevets of captain and major for faithful and meritorious service during the war. The



GEORGE MILLER STERNBERG

years following the war were full of the moves which make up the life of a junior medical officer. Sternberg was married on October 19, 1865, to Louisa Russell, daughter of Robert Russell of Cooperstown, N. Y., and took his bride to Jefferson Barracks, Missouri, from whence he was soon transferred to Fort Harker, Kansas. Mrs. Sternberg did not accompany him to the latter post, but joined him in 1867 just prior to an outbreak of cholera. She was one of the first civilians to develop the disease which caused her death within a few hours on July 15.

Sternberg, a captain since May 28, 1866, was sent to Fort Riley, Kansas, in December 1867, and with troops from this post took part, during 1868-69, in several expeditions against hostile Cheyenne Indians along the upper Arkansas river in Indian Territory and western Kansas. He served at Fort Riley until July 1870, when he was ordered to Governors Island, N. Y. In the meantime, he was married on September 1, 1869, at Indianapolis, Indiana, to Martha L. Pattison, daughter of Thomas T. N. Pattison of that city. Two years at Governors Island and three years, 1872-1875, at Fort Barrancas, Florida, gave him frequent contacts with yellow fever and at the latter post he contracted the disease himself. He had noted the efficiency of moving inhabitants out of an infested environment and successfully applied the methods to the Barrancas garrison.

About this time he published two articles in the *New Orleans Medical and Surgical Journal* ("*An Inquiry into the Modus Operandi of the Yellow Fever Poison*," July 1875, and "*A Study of the Natural History of Yellow Fever*" March 1877) which gave him a definite status as an authority on yellow fever.

While convalescing from the disease in 1877 he was ordered to Fort Walla Walla, Washington, where later in the same year he participated in a campaign against the Nez Perce Indians. The spare hours of his early service had been well employed in study and experimentation which laid the foundation for his later work. He perfected an anemometer and in 1870 patented an automatic heat regulator which has had wide use.

On December 1, 1875, he was promoted to the grade of major and in April 1879 he was ordered to Washington, D. C., and detailed with the Havana Yellow Fever Commission, his medical associates being Dr. Stanford Chaille of New Orleans

and Dr. Juan Guiteras of Havana. In the distribution of the work Sternberg was given the problems relating to the nature and natural history of the cause of the disease which involved microscopical examination of blood and tissues of yellow fever patients. In these investigations he was one of the first to employ the newly discovered process of photomicrography, and he developed high efficiency in its use. He spent three months in Havana closely associated with Dr. Carlos Finlay, the proponent of the theory of transmission of yellow fever by the mosquito.

After a year's work the Commission arrived at the conclusion that the solution of the cause of yellow fever must wait upon further progress in the new science of bacteriology. Soon after this Sternberg was sent to New Orleans to investigate the conflicting discoveries of the *Plasmodium malariae* of Alphonse Laveran, and the *Bacillus malariae* of Arnold Karl Klebs and Carrado Tomassi-Caudeli. His report, made in 1881, declared that the *Bacillus malariae* had no part in the causation of malaria. In this same year, simultaneously with Louis Pasteur, he announced the discovery of the pneumococcus, now recognized as the pathogenic agent in lobar pneumonia. He was the first in this country to demonstrate the plasmodium of malaria (1885) and the bacilli of tuberculosis and typhoid fever (1886). The interest in bacteriology naturally led to an interest in disinfection and he was the American pioneer in the field. He began these experiments in 1878 with putrefactive bacteria and continued them in Washington and in the laboratories of Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, under the auspices of the American Public Health Association.

For his essay *Disinfection and Individual Prophylaxis against Infectious Diseases* 1886, he was awarded the Lomb prize. The essay was translated into several languages. During the Hamburg cholera epidemic of 1892 he was detailed for duty with the New York quarantine station as a consultant on disinfection as applied to ships, their personnel, and cargo. Though cases of the disease reached American shores, none developed within the country. On January 2, 1891, he was promoted to lieutenant colonel.

With the retirement of General Sutherland in May 1893, Sternberg, as did many others, submitted his claims for con-

sideration for the vacancy. While not the senior officer of the corps by any means, he was in the first dozen and was without question the most eminent professional man in the service. He received the appointment of Surgeon General at the hands of President Cleveland on May 30, 1893, with the grade of brigadier general.

His nine years' tenure of that office was a time of professional progress and was featured by the occurrence of the Spanish-American War. He was responsible for the establishment of the Army Medical School in 1893, for the organization of a contract dental service and the army nurse corps, the creation of the tuberculosis hospital at Fort Bayard, New Mexico, and of a special surgical hospital at Washington Barracks. The equipment of the medical school included laboratories of chemistry and bacteriology, and a liberal-minded policy was adopted in the supply of laboratory supplies to the larger military hospitals. With the Spanish-American War and its epidemic of typhoid fever, the problem of hospitalization, though difficult, was met with fair success. In that year of war the Surgeon General caused the organization of the Typhoid Fever Board, made up of Majors Walter Reed, Victor C. Vaughan, and Edward O. Shakespeare, which established the facts of contact infection and fly carriage of the disease; and in 1900 he organized the Yellow Fever Commission, headed by Major Reed, which fixed the transmission of yellow fever upon a particular species of mosquito. On his recommendation the first tropical disease board was established in Manila in January 1900 where it functioned for about two years.

General Sternberg was retired on account of age on June 8, 1902, and devoted the later years of his life to social welfare activities in Washington, particularly to the sanitary improvement of habitations and the care of the tuberculous. He died at his home in Washington, on November 3, 1915. On his monument in Arlington Cemetery is the inscription:

"Pioneer American Bacteriologist, distinguished by his studies of the causation and prevention of infectious diseases, by his discovery of the microorganism causing pneumonia, and scientific investigations of yellow fever, which paved the way for the experimental demonstration of the mode of transmission of this pestilence. Veteran of three wars, breveted for bravery in action in the Civil War and the Nez Perce Wars.

Served as Surgeon General of the United States Army for period of nine years including the Spanish War. Founder of the Army Medical School. Scientist, author and philanthropist. M. D., LL. D."

His name will survive as that of the American bacteriologist, contemporary of Pasteur and Koch, who first brought the fundamental principles and technique of the new science within the reach of the American physician. From 1875, when he published his first articles on yellow fever, he was a frequent contributor to periodical literature of medicine. In 1892 he published his *Manual of Bacteriology*, the first exhaustive treatise on the subject produced in the United States.

His professional standing received wide and abundant recognition. The honorary degree of LL.D. was conferred upon him by the University of Michigan in 1894 and by Brown University in 1897. He was made an honorary member of the Epidemiological Society of London, the Royal Academy of Rome, the Academy of Medicine of Rio Janeiro, the American Academy of Medicine, and the French Society of Hygiene. He was a member, and one time president of the American Medical Association, the American Public Health Association, the Association of Military Surgeons of the United States, the Washington Biological Society, and the Philosophical Society of the District of Columbia.

He was a modest and unassuming man, gentle in manner and in speech, whose whole career was devoted to duty and untiring industry. Faced in the Spanish-American War with great difficulties he bore without reply the burden of much criticism, either unfounded or the result of conditions not of his making. He was short in stature, with a moderate stoutness in his later years. His later portraits show him with a white moustache and a fringe of white hair together with the fine intelligent forehead and keen speculative eyes which marked all his earlier portraits.

[*Who's Who in America* 1914-15. Martha L. Sternberg *George Miller Sternberg* (1920). *Address Delivered at the Complimentary Banquet to Gen. George M. Sternberg—on his Seventieth Birthday* (1908) ed. by G. M. Kober. A. C. Abbott in *Tr. Coll. Physicians Philadelphia* (1918). Kelly and Burrage *American Medical Biographies* (1920). J. E. Pilcher *Surgeon Generals of the Army* (1905). Obituary in *Evening Star* (Washington, D.C.) Nov.3, 1915.]



WILLIAM HENRY FORWOOD

XVIII.

WILLIAM HENRY FORWOOD (Sept. 7, 1838 - May 12, 1915), Surgeon General, June 8, 1902 - September 7, 1902, was born at Brandywine Hundred, Delaware, the son of Robert and Rachel Way (Larkin) Forwood. He received his preliminary education in the public schools of his native community and in Chester Academy at Chester, Pennsylvania. He obtained his medical education at the University of Pennsylvania, where he graduated in 1861, in the early days of the Civil War. On August 5th of that year he was commissioned an assistant surgeon in the army and detailed for duty at Seminary Hospital in Georgetown, D. C.

After a few months of this service he was sent on duty in the field as regimental surgeon of the 14th Infantry and later served as acting medical director of General Sykes' division in the Army of the Potomac. Following a short tour of duty in the office of the medical director in Washington, he was again sent to field duty as surgeon of the 6th Cavalry in Stoneman's cavalry division. He took part in the battles of Yorktown, Gaines' Mill, Malvern Hill, the second Bull Run, Antietam, Gettysburg, and Brandy Station. In the latter engagement he received a severe gunshot wound through the chest. Following his recovery he was assigned as executive officer of Satterlee General Hospital in West Philadelphia, and later was placed in charge of the medical storeship *Marcy C. Day*. His last war service was the command of Whitehall General Hospital near Bristol, Pa., a hospital of two thousand beds which he organized and built. On March 13, 1865 he was given the brevets of captain and major for faithful and meritorious service during the war. Following the close of the war he was sent to Fort Riley, Kansas, where he served until June 1867. This duty was marked by a severe epidemic of cholera in 1866, which he fought alone, and was varied by several tours of field service with the 2d Cavalry in expeditions against hostile Indians along the upper Arkansas river. He was promoted to the grade of captain on July 28, 1866, and in the following year was trans-

ferred to Fort Larned, Kansas, where he served until July 1870. Two years followed at Fort Brady, Mich., a part of which time was taken up by a leave spent in the study of yellow fever at the quarantine station at Philadelphia. His next duty was at Fort Richardson, Texas, where he stayed until September 1876. After short tours at Raleigh, N. C., and Columbia, S. C., he was sent to Fort McPherson, in Georgia, where he remained until December 1879. From here he was transferred to Fort Omaha, Neb., from which post, during the summers of 1881 and 1882, he was detailed as surgeon and naturalist for military reconnaissance and exploring expeditions to the northwest, which were conducted annually under instructions from General Philip Sheridan. In November 1882 he was detailed as attending surgeon at the headquarters of the Division of the Missouri, at Chicago, and in the following summer again accompanied the exploring expedition to the northwest, this time in company with President Arthur and Secretary of War Robert T. Lincoln, guests of General Sheridan. The results of his observations on these trips were embodied in *Observations on Flora, etc., During Journey through Portions of Wyoming and Montana* (1881), *Geologic and Botanic Reports of Explorations of Parts of Wyoming, Idaho and Montana* (1882), and *Labor Among Primitive Peoples* (1904). He remained at Chicago until December 1886, when, after an extended leave, he was sent to Fort Snelling, Minn., where he served for the next three years. On May 27, 1890, he reported for duty as attending surgeon at the United States Soldiers' Home at Washington, D. C., which continued to be his station until December 12, 1898. The years of this tour were eventful and useful ones. When the Army Medical School was organized in 1893 he was appointed professor of military surgery. During the years 1895-97 he held the chair of surgery and surgical pathology, and during the years 1897-98 that of military surgery, in the medical department of Georgetown University, which conferred upon him the honorary degree of LL.D. The flood of sick coming up from Cuba in the summer of 1898 caused the establishment of a great hospital and convalescent camp at Montauk Point, N. Y., and of that camp Forwood was made chief medical officer. Later in that year he selected the site and superintended the construction of a general

hospital for returning troops at Savannah, Ga. In December 1898 he was relieved from duty in Washington and ordered to San Francisco as chief surgeon of the Department of California, a position of increasing importance on account of probable hostilities in the Philippines. In 1901 he was assigned to duty in the office of the Surgeon General in Washington and with the reorganization of the Army Medical School in the fall of that year he was made president of the faculty.

In the meantime he had been promoted to the grade of lieutenant colonel on June 15, 1891, and to colonel on May 3, 1897, and had reached a rank in the corps second only to the Surgeon General. When General Sternberg retired in June 1902, Colonel Forwood had himself but three months to serve before his compulsory retirement for age. He was, however, promoted to the Surgeon Generalcy, with the grade of brigadier general, on June 8, 1902, for the brief period, an act which gave great satisfaction to the whole medical service. He retired on September 7, 1902, after forty-one years of notably creditable service. He was one of the outstanding operating surgeons of the corps of his day, was always a profound student of surgery and surgical anatomy, and was an able instructor. He continued his residence in Washington where he lived quietly after his retirement until after a prolonged illness, his death occurred at his home there in his seventy-seventh year.

In addition to the monographs heretofore mentioned General Forwood contributed the article on military surgery in Vol. II of William H. Dennis' *System of Surgery* (1895-96) and that on the same subject in Vol. II of J. C. Warren and A. P. Gould's *International Textbook of Surgery* (1900). From 1876 on he contributed a flow of journal articles pertaining to natural history and military medicine. From February 1898 to February 1899 he was in charge of "The Military Surgeon", a supplement of the *National Medical Review*.

He was a member of the American Medical Association, the American Academy of Medicine, the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences, and of the Association of Military Surgeons.

General Forwood's early war service marks him as a man of unusual physical courage, dash, and gallantry. Repeatedly he exposed himself to the greatest dangers in treating the wounded

on fire-swept fields and in rescuing wounded from falling into enemy hands. It was on such duty as this that he received the chest wound at Brandy Station.

Later he showed that same courage in seeking opportunities for service in centers of epidemic disease, when the dangers again were decidedly real. He was aided by a physique of great strength and endurance. He was of medium height with a large chest and heavy musculature. He retained in his later years a good thatch of hair, a military mustache, and goatee, none of them much touched with gray.

He was married on September 28, 1870, to Mary Osbourne, daughter of Antrim Osbourne of Media, Pa. They had no children.

[*Alumnae Register (Univ. of Pa.)* Nov. 1902. J. E. Pilcher *Surgeon Generals of the Army* (1905). *Medic News* N. Y., June 14, 1902. *Mil. Surgeon* June 1915. *Evening Star* (Washington, D.C.) May 12, 1915. *Records of Living Officers of the U.S. Army* (1884). Records of the Office of The Surgeon General.]



ROBERT MAITLAND O'REILLY

XIX.

ROBERT MAITLAND O'REILLY (Jan. 14, 1845 - Nov. 3, 1912), Surgeon General, September 7, 1902 - January 14, 1909, was born in Philadelphia to John and Ellen (Maitland) O'Reilly. He was descended on his father's side from an old Irish family, one branch of which, emigrating to Spain, produced General Alexander O'Reilly who was captain general of Cuba and one of the Spanish governors of Louisiana. The American branch settled in Pennsylvania before the Revolutionary War. Young Robert was educated in the public schools of his native city and had commenced the study of medicine at the University of Pennsylvania when the Civil War broke out. In August 1862 he was appointed an acting medical cadet and was assigned for duty in the Cuyler General Hospital in Philadelphia. Later he served as a medical cadet in a hospital at Chattanooga, Tenn., and in the office of the medical director of the Army of the Cumberland.

With the close of the Civil War, he resumed his medical studies at the University of Pennsylvania and was graduated in 1866. On May 14, 1867, he was appointed assistant surgeon in the army and sent to Fort Trumbull, Conn. Shortly thereafter he was sent out to California by way of Nicaragua with a shipment of recruits. While en route with recruits from San Francisco to Whipple Barracks, Arizona, he was wounded by the accidental discharge of a revolver at Camp Mud Springs, Cal., and was under treatment for some time at Drum Barracks, Cal., after which he proceeded to his original assignment in Arizona. He served at Camp Date Creek, Camp McDowell, Camp Renon, Fort Whipple, Camp Halleck, and Fort Union, all in the extreme southwest, until June 1870, during which time he saw considerable field service against hostile Indians. The summer of 1870 was spent in the field in Colorado with the 8th Cavalry, after which he was assigned for station at Fort Laramie, Wyoming, where he served from May 1871 to July 1874. He participated in the campaign of 1874 against the Sioux Indians and at the conclusion of that campaign he took station at

Fort D. A. Russell at Cheyenne, Wyoming. In June 1875 he was ordered east, and given short tours of duty at Fort McHenry, Maryland, and at Fort Hamilton, New York. In November 1875 he was sent to Fort Ontario, New York, which was his station until May 1878. While at this station he was detailed, in 1877, to duty incident to labor disturbances in Pennsylvania, and sustained an injury which incapacitated him to a remarkable extent for two years.

Short terms of duty at Charleston, S. C., and Fort McPherson, Ga., interspersed with sick leaves brought him to the summer of 1882, when in June he was ordered to duty with the attending surgeon in Washington, D. C. In November 1884 he himself became the attending surgeon, which post he held until November 1889. In this capacity his attractive personality and his professional skill made him a prominent figure in the capital. He was made the attending physician to the White House by President Cleveland, with whom he was on terms of intimate friendship and who brought him back to Washington during his second term in the presidency. From June to September 1888 he attended General Philip Sheridan during his last illness at Nonquitt, Mass. From Washington he was ordered to Fort Logan, Colorado, where he served from May 1890 to February 1893 when he was again detailed as attending surgeon at the capital.

In April 1897 he was assigned to duty at Fort Wayne, Michigan, and from this post he accompanied the troops into the field at the onset of the Spanish-American War. Arriving at Mobile, Ala., he was assigned as chief surgeon of the First Independent Division commanded by Major General John J. Coppinger. He was later chief surgeon of the 4th Army Corps and still later chief surgeon on the staff of Major General James F. Wade in Havana. The medical department ship *Bay State* was placed at his disposal and he was sent to Jamaica for the purpose of acquiring information relative to the experience of the British army in tropical hygiene. He made a study of the housing, food, clothing, and care of troops and submitted a report with recommendations on these subjects which were of material value.

Returning from Cuba in November 1899 he commanded the

Josiah Simpson Hospital at Fortress Monroe, Va., and later was transferred to the headquarters of the Department of California at San Francisco as chief surgeon.

In the passing years he had been rising in the military scale. Promoted to captain May 14, 1870, to major November 1, 1886, and to lieutenant colonel February 21, 1900, he reached the grade of colonel on February 14, 1902.

At the time of General Forwood's retirement in September 1902 there was a regulation in effect that the appointment to Surgeon General should be for a period of four years, and a ruling that the appointee must have four years to serve before his compulsory retirement for age. There was a small group of brilliant officers on the list ahead of Colonel O'Reilly, notably Colonels Smart, Lippincott, and DeWitt, but all were barred from the coveted place by lack of the necessary four years to serve. Colonel O'Reilly, the senior officer able to meet the requirements, was appointed Surgeon General with the grade of brigadier general on September 7, 1902.

Up to this time it had been the almost invariable custom that the office assistants of the Surgeon General should be selected from among the senior officers of the corps. General O'Reilly departed from the long-time custom by surrounding himself with a group of young, alert, active men, a group that went far toward directing the fortunes of the corps for the next two decades. To this group belonged Jefferson R. Kean, Walter D. McCaw, Charles F. Mason, and James D. Glennan, all junior majors, and Merritte W. Ireland, Francis T. Winter, Charles Lynch, and Carl R. Darnall who had still to gain that grade when General O'Reilly's term began. Major Kean was made executive officer and the others assigned to the charge of divisions into which the office was organized. Unsatisfactory conditions in the army disclosed by the Spanish-American War caused the appointment by President McKinley of the Dodge Commission. The findings of this commission relating to the medical department took the form of a number of recommendations which it devolved upon General O'Reilly to carry out.

These recommendations were briefly as follows: (1) a larger force of commissioned medical officers, (2) authority to establish in time of peace a proper volunteer hospital corps, (3)

a nurse corps of selected trained women nurses ready to serve whenever necessity should arise, (4) a year's supply, for an army of at least four times the normal strength, of all medicines, hospital furniture, and stores as are not materially damaged by keeping, to be held constantly on hand in the medical supply depots, (5) charge of transportation to such an extent as will secure prompt shipment and ready delivery of all medical supplies, (6) simplification of administrative paper work, (7) provision for purchase by subsistence funds of articles of special diets for the sick.

In his last annual report, that of 1908, General O'Reilly was able to say that all of these objectives had been realized or were in good prospect of realization. General O'Reilly and his staff achieved a relation with the army, with Congress, with the medical profession, and with the public never visualized by any previous administration. During his term every medical department activity was studied, overhauled, and improved. Toward the latter part of his term an appropriation was obtained from Congress for the purchase of the site and for the beginning of construction of a general hospital in Washington (the Walter Reed General Hospital), a project under advisement since the days of General Hammond.

Perhaps the outstanding accomplishment of this regime was the increase and reorganization of the Medical Corps and the Hospital Corps, with the elimination of the meaningless titles carried by medical officers and the substitution of the titles sergeant and corporal for the obsolete titles of noncommissioned officers. This reorganization act of April 23, 1908 (35 Stat. 66), also created the Medical Reserve Corps. General O'Reilly was president of the board which recommended the adoption of typhoid prophylaxis for the army. In 1906 he reconstituted the Board for the Study of Tropical Diseases in Manila and set for it certain objectives. In that same year he represented the United States at the international conference at Geneva, Switzerland, for the revision of the Geneva Convention. At the expiration of his first term of appointment in 1906 he was reappointed and served until the time for his compulsory retirement for age on January 14, 1909. Never of strong constitution and the subject of much

ill-health during his army career, his remaining three years were spent quietly in a state of semi-invalidism in Washington, where he died of uremic poisoning, on November 3, 1912.

Few of our Surgeon Generals went in much for literary work and General O'Reilly was not of that few. His only notable contribution was the monograph on military surgery which appeared in the fourth edition of W. W. Keen's *American Text-book of Surgery* (1903), in which he collaborated with Major William C. Borden.

General O'Reilly was a man of fine mind and of high culture. He had great personal attraction, winning the affection and loyalty of all with whom he came into intimate contact. Though of a sensitive and retiring disposition he had an unfailing fund of courtesy and good nature. He was a devotee of chamber music and an accomplished performer on the violin. Many of his deepest friendships were with those to whom he was bound by the ties of music. Physically a small man, he carried himself with a good military bearing.

He was married on August 6, 1877, to Frances L. Pardee of Oswego, N. Y., who, with one daughter, survived him. The death of his only son, just grown to manhood, saddened his later years.

[J. E. Pilcher *Surgeon Generals of the Army* (1905). F. H. Garrison *In Memoriam: General Robert Maitland O'Reilly*, in *N. York M. J.* Nov. 30, 1912. Kelly and Burrage *American Medical Biographies* (1920). *Who's Who in America* 1912-13. P. M. Ashburn *History of the Medical Department of the U.S. Army* (1929).]

XX.

GEORGE HENRY TORNEY (June 1, 1850 - Dec. 27, 1913), Surgeon General, January 14, 1909 - December 27, 1913, was born in Baltimore, Maryland, the son of John P. and Mary M. (Peacock) Torney. He received his preliminary education at Carroll College, New Windsor, Maryland, which he attended from 1862 to 1867, following which he took the course in medicine at the University of Virginia at Charlottesville where he was given his degree of M.D. on June 30, 1870.

After an internship at the Bay View Hospital in Baltimore he entered the Navy as an assistant surgeon on November 1, 1871. He was promoted to passed assistant surgeon on December 18, 1874, but on account of intractable seasickness he resigned his commission on June 30, 1875. The following day, July 1, 1875, he accepted appointment as a first lieutenant and assistant surgeon in the medical department of the army. Then followed years of highly useful though relatively uneventful service in various army posts. Upon appointment he was ordered to Fort Wood in New York harbor, from whence he sailed in November 1875 with a battalion of the 5th Artillery to Key West Barracks, Florida. He served at Fort Canby in Florida until May 1877 when he was transferred to Fort Gibson in the Indian Territory. In September 1878 he went to Fort Wingate, New Mexico, and in December 1880 to Fort Lyon, Colorado, where he remained for the following four years. In this service in the southwest he saw the usual amount of field service against hostile Indians that fell to the lot of all medical officers serving in that section during those troublesome times.

In April 1885 he was brought east to Fortress Monroe, Virginia, where he served for the next four years, after which he had four years of service at Fort Brown, Texas, near the mouth of the Rio Grande. He had been promoted to Captain on July 1, 1880, and in September 1893 he was ordered to Philadelphia as attending surgeon and to prepare him for his examination for the grade of major.

He was promoted to major on June 6, 1894, and in the fol-



GEORGE HENRY TORNEY

lowing month was detailed for duty as surgeon at the United States Military Academy at West Point. He remained there until the outbreak of the Spanish-American War, when in May 1898 he was ordered to equip and command the hospital ship *Relief*. He served in this capacity, transporting sick and wound-from Cuba and Porto Rico to the United States, until the end of hostilities.

In October 1898 he was sent to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, and detailed as instructor in hygiene in the general service schools. After one year of this duty he was transferred to the command of the Army and Navy General Hospital at Hot Springs, Arkansas, where he remained until November 1902. From this duty he was transferred to Manila, P. I., and assigned to the command of the First Reserve Hospital.

In July of the following year he was transferred, seriously ill, to the general hospital at the Presidio of San Francisco. In November he was sufficiently recovered to be assigned to the duty of chief surgeon of the Department of California. After four months of this duty he was sent back to the Presidio as commanding officer of the general hospital. He held this position from March 1904 until December 1908. It was during this period, on April 18, 1906, that the great earthquake and fire occurred in San Francisco. The army was active in the police and rescue work following the disaster and the Presidio hospital was taxed to the limit. Lieut. Colonel Torney was placed in charge of the sanitary work of the stricken city and acquitted himself notably well in the face of the greatest difficulties. The brilliant record that he made as an administrator and sanitarian during these trying days made him the popular hero of the city and assisted materially to give him the office of Surgeon General when it became vacant. From November 1907 to November 1908 he filled the dual role of chief surgeon of the Department of California and commanding officer of the general hospital which was later designated Letterman General Hospital in War Dep't. General Orders, No. 152, November 23, 1911. In the meantime he had been advanced to the grade of lieutenant colonel and deputy surgeon general on August 6, 1903, and to colonel of the medical corps on April 23, 1908.

With the retirement of General O'Reilly in January 1909

the strength of San Francisco's gratitude was sufficient to give Colonel Torney the vacated place, though the list of officers senior to him included such potent names as those of Colonels Gorgas, Havard, and Hoff.

General Torney began his career as Surgeon General on January 14, 1909. He retained as his office assistants much of the same group that General O'Reilly had assembled and continued to advocate the policies laid down by his predecessor. The reserves of officers, nurses, and supplies were built up, and the Walter Reed General Hospital was opened in May 1909 following the announcement in War Dep't. General Orders, No. 70, April 14, 1909, and the discontinuance of the hospital at Washington Barracks. Immunization against typhoid fever was pushed to universal use in the army in 1911, and the use of venereal prophylaxis extended. The Army Medical School was built up, department laboratories established, and sanitary measures improved. An act of Congress approved March 3, 1911 (36 Stat. 1054), created the Dental Corps as part of the medical department. It was a time of activity in the tactical training of medical personnel with the beginning of the instruction of medical officers in field work and medical tactics at the Fort Leavenworth schools and with added importance given to military hygiene in the service schools. The mobilization of a maneuver division in Texas gave the medical department an opportunity to test for the first time the worth of their field hospitals and ambulance companies and the efficiency of the regimental sanitary equipment. It gave also a practical test of the efficacy of the typhoid prophylaxis. In the Philippines the work of the medical research board was fruitful in the practical elimination of beri-beri from the native troops. General Torney's term of four years ended with a brilliant record of achievement in January 1913 and he was immediately reappointed on January 14. His second term had advanced less than a year when on December 27, 1913, he died of broncho-pneumonia at his residence in Washington after an illness of some weeks duration. He was within about six months of his retirement for age.

General Torney was a member of the American Medical Association and of the Association of Military Surgeons and a fellow of the American College of Surgeons. He was elected

president of the Association of Military Surgeons at its Milwaukee meeting in 1911. He was the Chairman of the War Relief Committee of the American National Red Cross.

He was married on January 22, 1872, to Mary A. Johnston of Baltimore. She survived him together with one daughter and four sons. One son followed his father's bent in the study of medicine and another followed him in a military career as an infantry officer.

[*Who's Who in America* (1912-13). *Mil. Surgeon* Feb. 1909. *Ibid*, Feb. 1914. *Boston M. and S. J.* 1914, p. 71. *J. A. M. A.* 1914, p. 52. *N. York M. J.* 1914, p. 32. *N. Y. Med. Times* 1914, p. 121. *P. M. Ashburn History of the Medical Department of the U. S. Army* 1929). Records of the Office of The Surgeon General.]

XXI.

WILLIAM CRAWFORD GORGAS (October 3, 1854 - July 3, 1920), Surgeon General, January 16, 1914 - October 3, 1918, was the son of General Josiah Gorgas, a native of Pennsylvania who graduated from the United States Military Academy in the class of 1841. Assigned to the ordnance service, he was in command of Mount Vernon Arsenal, near Mobile, Alabama, in 1853, when he married Amelia Gayle, daughter of Judge John Gayle, a former governor of Alabama. William was born at the Gayle home, Toulminville, near Mobile. The elder Gorgas, strongly sympathetic with the Southern cause, resigned his captain's commission on April 3, 1861, shortly before the attack on Fort Sumter. On April 8 he was appointed a major in the Confederate service and was assigned to duty as chief of ordnance which post he held throughout the war, rising to the grade of brigadier general. In the capital city of the Confederacy, young William spent the four stirring years of the war and with his mother saw the entrance of the Federal troops after his father accompanied General Lee in his evacuation of the city. Following a short time spent in Baltimore the family moved to Brierfield, Alabama, where the father was manager of the Brierfield Iron Works. In 1869 the University of the South was opened at Sewanee, Tenn., and General Gorgas was made head of the junior department.

Up to this time the son's education had been quite irregular. He had had the advantages of a private school in Richmond but the times were too distracting for satisfactory progress. He spent six years at the Sewanee school and in 1875 graduated with the degree of bachelor of arts.

From the experiences of his childhood Gorgas had acquired a strong desire for a military career. Every effort was made to obtain for him an appointment to the West Point academy but without avail. Much against his father's wishes he determined to enter the service by way of a medical degree. He entered Bellevue Hospital Medical College in New York in 1876 and was graduated in 1879 after three years of financial difficulties. Following an internship in Bellevue Hospital he was appointed, on June 16, 1880, an assistant surgeon in the medical corps of



WILLIAM CRAWFORD GORGAS

the army.

For nearly two decades thereafter Gorgas' life was that of the average medical officer of the period. Following several years in Texas posts and a tour of duty in North Dakota he spent practically the entire decade preceding the Spanish-American War at Fort Barrancas in Pensacola Bay, Florida. Shortly after the beginning of his army career he went through an epidemic of yellow fever at Fort Brown, Texas, and was himself stricken with the disease. Thereafter, as an immune, he was frequently drafted for service where yellow fever existed. This accounts for his long service at Fort Barrancas, a post in a section notorious for its epidemics and itself frequently subject to visitations of the disease. He was promoted to captain June 16, 1885, and to major July 6, 1898. To Gorgas, as to others, yellow fever was an enigma. Its suddenness of appearance, its puzzling choice of victims, and the inutility of ordinary means of disease prevention were quite beyond understanding. With the Spanish-American War in progress, Gorgas arrived at Siboney, in Cuba, on July 7, 1898. While negotiations for the capitulation of Santiago were in progress yellow fever broke out in the American forces. Gorgas was assigned to the yellow fever section of the Siboney hospital and shortly thereafter took over the command of the hospital from Major Louis A. La Garde. It is significant of the view of the disease then currently held that it was recommended that the village of Siboney be destroyed by fire. Not only was this recommendation carried out, but in September the Siboney group of hospitals with much of their equipment was similarly destroyed.

Major Gorgas was returned to the United States in September, convalescent from typhoid fever. Later in 1898 he returned to Cuba and early in 1899 he became chief surgeon of the Department of Havana. Following the appointment of General Leonard Wood as military governor of Cuba in December 1899, Gorgas was made chief sanitary officer for the city of Havana. Though yellow fever at this time showed only as sporadic cases it was, as always, the chief concern. Gorgas applied to the city the generally accepted methods of disease control. He cleaned up the city, segregated the sick, and quarantined infected localities. Though a friend of Dr. Carlos J. Finlay and familiar with

his theory of the mosquito transmission of yellow fever Gorgas placed no confidence in the idea. Despite the greatly improved sanitary condition of Havana the yellow fever situation, instead of improving, became much more serious. It was not until the board, of which Major Walter Reed was the head, furnished proof that the *Stegomyia* mosquito was the carrier of the disease that truly effective methods could be instituted. The *Stegomyia*, since more accurately named *Aedes Aegypti*, was the common mosquito pest of the city. It is a highly domesticated insect, breeding in all kinds of water containers in and around habitations. The surest control of the insect was deemed to be the elimination of its breeding places. This plan was adopted and, though the task had many difficulties, Havana was not only freed of its mosquitoes but was permanently rid of yellow fever. The results obtained by his work in Havana brought him an international reputation as a sanitarian.

The years from 1900 to 1904 brought the gradual development of plans for digging the Panama Canal. There was early recognition of the necessity for expert sanitary advice upon the project and in 1902 Gorgas was transferred from Havana to Washington and assigned to this work. In March 1903 Congress raised him to the grade of colonel in recognition of his services in Havana. For two years he studied the canal problem, reviewing the experience of the French on the isthmus and making visits to the Suez Canal and to Panama. Actual work upon the canal commenced in 1904, and Gorgas with his staff of assistants arrived in June of that year. He early encountered administration difficulties. Despite the positive knowledge that the French failure had been due to disease the American administration was disinclined to support adequate measures for preventing a repetition of that experience. The first Canal Commission, headed by Admiral John C. Walker, had strongly in mind the prevention of graft and extravagance. Expenditures for sanitary improvements were regarded as falling under the latter head. It required a visitation of yellow fever, starting in November 1904, to obtain for Gorgas any substantial support for his work. He began in the Canal Zone the measures which had been highly successful in Havana. Again the mosquito was to be deprived of breeding places and cases of yellow fever segregated and protected

from mosquitoes. The situation in Panama presented more difficulties than that in Havana and results were far less prompt. It was well into 1905 before yellow fever had been eradicated, and in the meantime determined efforts were being made to discredit Gorgas' work and to supplant him. It is probable that these could have been successful but for the interest aroused by a report made by Dr. Charles A. L. Reed of Cincinnati to the American Medical Association in March 1905, in which the obstructive hand of Commissioner Carl E. Grunsky was so largely featured. The discharge of the Walker Commission at about this time and the appointment of another headed by Theodore P. Shonts did little to mitigate Gorgas' troubles. Yellow fever was still prevalent and the new commissioners were dissatisfied that the first interest of the sanitary service was the elimination of mosquitoes rather than the general improvement of the cities of Panama and Colon.

They recommended the removal of Gorgas which not only drew the disapproval of President Roosevelt but caused an order for active support of his work. In November 1906 the President paid a visit to Panama and shortly thereafter Gorgas was made a member of the canal commission.

For a time he had practically a free hand, but after the reorganization of the commission in 1908, with Colonel George A. Goethals as chairman and chief engineer, his troubles began anew. Goethals, given unusual powers by executive order, ruled the Canal Zone with a despotic control. He was free in criticism and centered his attacks upon the expense of the sanitary service. Despite the difficulties thrown around his work, due to lack of cooperation from the chief commissioner, Gorgas not only freed the Canal Zone from yellow fever but he made the cities of Panama and Colon models of sanitation comparable with any city of the United States. In the meantime his reputation had extended until he was generally regarded as the world's foremost sanitary expert. In 1913 he was asked by the Transvaal Chamber of Mines to visit South Africa and make recommendation for the control of pneumonia among the negro mine workers. It was while engaged in this work that he received the notification of his appointment as Surgeon General of the Army, with the rank of brigadier general, on January 16, 1914. He

returned to the United States in April to take up his new duties, and on March 4, 1915, he was advanced to the grade of major general. The recently organized International Health Board enlisted him as an advisor, and in 1916 sent him with a staff of assistants for a tour of South and Central America with a view to continuing the fight on yellow fever in these sections. Following this trip, a plan for the elimination of yellow fever was adopted and Gorgas was made director of the work.

General Gorgas had always been more interested in disease prevention than in office administration. In January 1917 he informed the Secretary of War that he wished to retire and Colonel Henry P. Birmingham was tentatively chosen as his successor. The severance of diplomatic relations with Germany soon thereafter caused him to change his plans and put a stop to his public health activities. It would be quite beyond the scope of this sketch to attempt any narration of the activities of the medical department during the World War. General Gorgas' time during this period was largely taken up by consultations with representatives of the Secretary of War, the Council of National Defense, the General Medical Board, and with Congressional committees. The details of his office were in the hands of Colonel (later Major General) Robert E. Noble, who had served with him through many years of his Panama service. He was intelligent, capable and industrious, and he managed the office extraordinarily well.

The Army School of Nursing authorized by the Secretary of War on May 25, 1918, was organized and its first sessions began in July 1918 with Miss Annie W. Goodrich, a contract nurse, as the first Dean. The Fitzsimons General Hospital for tubercular patients was built at Denver, Colorado, and opened for patients on October 17, 1918, just two weeks after General Gorgas' retirement from office.

General Gorgas was retired on account of age on October 3, 1918, shortly before the Armistice, and again became available for work with the International Health Board. He was commissioned to investigate the yellow fever situation on the west coast of Africa and in May 1920 he sailed with his staff for London. After attending the meeting of the International Hygiene Congress in Brussels he returned to London where he ex-

perienced a stroke of apoplexy, and died a month later, on July 3, 1920, in the Queen Alexandria Military Hospital at Millbank. The funeral was held in St. Paul's Cathedral and the body returned to the United States to rest in the Arlington National Cemetery.

General Gorgas had been the recipient of many honors. Honorary degrees had been given him by the University of the South, by Harvard, Brown, Pennsylvania, Johns Hopkins, and by Oxford Universities. He had been decorated by a number of foreign countries. The University of the South and the University of Alabama, both of which his father had served, offered him their presidencies. In 1908 the American Medical Association elected him its president. During his last illness he was visited by King George and knighted.

As the man whose sanitary skill made possible the construction of the Panama Canal, his name will always be linked with that gigantic work. His achievement at Havana which first brought him to fame is overshadowed by his later and greater work.

He published *Sanitation in Panama* (1915) but wrote comparatively little for publication, leaving his work to speak for itself and to be reported upon by others. Physically he was a little above the average height. To the end he conserved the trim figure which early athletic habits had given him. His portraits show a fine oval face with firm mouth and humorous eyes. His hair was deep black in youth. In his later years his heavy crown of white hair and his white mustache contributed much to a distinguished appearance. Temperamentally he was mild, amiable, and optimistic. To a pliability of temperament was added a quiet determination and persistence. It was this combination of seemingly opposite qualities that carried him successfully through his Panama difficulties.

He was married on September 15, 1885, to Marie Cook Doughty of Columbus, Ohio, who with one daughter, survived him.

[H. C. Gorgas and E. J. Hendrick *William Crawford Gorgas: His Life and Work* (1924). F. H. Martin in *Surg. Gyn. Obst.* Oct. 1923. R. E. Noble in *Am. J. Pub. Health* March 1921. J. F. Siler in *Am. J. Trop. M.* March 1922. M. W. Ireland in *Science* July 16, 1920. *Who's Who in America*, 1920-21. P. M. Ashburn *History of the Medical Department of the U.S. Army* (1929).]

XXII.

MERRITTE WEBER IRELAND, The Surgeon General, October 4, 1918 - May 31, 1931, was born on May 31, 1867, at Columbia City, a town in the upper end of the Wabash valley in Whitley County, Indiana. His father, Dr. Martin Ireland, was born in Chillicothe, Ohio, and graduated in medicine in Cincinnati in 1849, settling in Columbia City in 1855. The Ireland family originated in the west of Scotland, coming to Ohio by way of Maryland. His mother, whose maiden name was Sarah Fellers, came from Waynesboro, Virginia.

After finishing the high school course in his native town, he entered the Detroit College of Medicine where after three years (1887-1890) he received an M.D. degree in the latter year. The following year was spent in Jefferson Medical College where again he was given an M.D. degree in 1891. He immediately took the examination for the medical service of the army and was commissioned an assistant surgeon from Indiana on May 4, 1891. His first assignment took him to Jefferson Barracks, Mo., where he served from May to September of 1891. At the end of that time he was transferred to Fort Riley, Kansas, to serve under Major John Van R. Hoff and to have direct charge of the first company of instruction of the Hospital Corps organized by Captain Hoff. This early contact with one of the most forceful characters the medical department has produced was bound to have a lasting influence. The friendship of the two remained a close one until Colonel Hoff's death. During this tour at Fort Riley he had terms of temporary duty at Fort Yates, N. D., in 1892 and at the World's Fair in Chicago in 1893. He was transferred to duty at Fort Apache, Arizona, in April 1893 and remained there until November of the following year. While at this post he returned to Columbia City, his old home, and was married on November 8, 1893, to Elizabeth Liggett of that place. In November 1894 he went for duty to Fort Stanton, New Mexico, where he served until January 1896. His service at Fort Apache and Fort Stanton was featured by much field service incident to Indian depredations and to exploring



MERRITTE WEBER IRELAND

expeditions. From Fort Stanton he was transferred to Benicia Barracks, California, in January 1896. While stationed at that post he spent the summers of 1896-1897 in the Yosemite National Park with troops. In January 1898 he was ordered to the Presidio of San Francisco, where the outbreak of the Spanish-American War found him. In April 1898 he accompanied units of the 3d Field Artillery to Chickamauga Park, Georgia, and from there to Port Tampa, Florida. In June he went to Cuba on the transport *Saratoga* landing at Siboney, where he was assigned to the Reserve Divisional Hospital under command of Major Louis A. La Garde. Accompanying General Shafter's army he returned to the United States in August, landing at Montauk Point, L. I., where he was assigned as executive officer of the general hospital at Camp Wickoff.

In November he was sent to Fort Wayne, Michigan, as post surgeon. His stay there was short for in the following summer he was assigned to the position of major and surgeon, 45th Volunteer Infantry, and went with that organization to the Philippines. From December 1899 to April 1900 he saw constant field service with his regiment, participating in a dozen engagements in the provinces of Cavite, Camarines, and Albay in southern Luzon. In April he was detached from his regiment and placed in charge of the medical supply depot in Manila. For nearly two years he performed the duty of medical purveyor of the Division of the Philippines with additional duties as disbursing officer of the Public Civil Fund. For the highly efficient performance of these duties he received the commendation of the Philippine high command. He held rank as a major of volunteers from August 17, 1899, to June 30, 1901. In the meantime he had been promoted to the grade of captain in the regular establishment on May 4, 1896, and was advanced to the grade of major on August 3, 1903.

He returned to the United States on the transport *Grant* in March 1902, and was assigned as attending surgeon in St. Louis, Missouri. In October of that year he was brought to the office of The Surgeon General in Washington by General O'Reilly who had recently taken over that office. He was given charge of the Hospital Corps division of the office, the name later changed to personnel division. For nearly ten years there-

after, through the administrations of Generals O'Reilly and Torney, Major Ireland served the central office in various capacities. At different times he was executive officer and in charge of the supply division, reverting again in his later years in the office to the post of head of the personnel division. This service, from 1902 to 1912, gave him a remarkable knowledge of the personnel of the corps, a knowledge which was of the greatest value to him in his later career. As personnel officer he had put into effect a foreign service roster, the operation of which had brought him to the top of the list in 1912, when he went again to the Philippine Islands, serving from September 1912 to June 1915 as surgeon of the brigade post of Fort McKinley, near Manila. He returned to the United States in August 1915 and was assigned to Fort Sam Houston, Texas, first as sanitary inspector of the Southern Department and surgeon of the Cavalry Division, later as surgeon of the post. His tour of duty here coincided with the assembly of large bodies of National Guard troops along the Rio Grande and with the Punitive Expedition into Mexico led by General Pershing. Fort Sam Houston was the hospital center for these operations, with a situation beset with difficulties for the surgeon, but Ireland, a lieutenant colonel since May 1, 1911, only added to his reputation for able administration. He was holding this position when a state of war was declared with Germany on April 6, 1917. In assembling his staff for the high command in France, General Pershing chose Ireland for the post of chief surgeon, but The Surgeon General selected for the place Colonel Alfred E. Bradley.

Ireland sailed with General Pershing for France as first assistant to Colonel Bradley and served in that capacity until the latter was compelled on account of ill-health to give up this office in April 1918, when Ireland became chief surgeon. As assistant and head of the service in the American Expeditionary Force his administrative and professional abilities won the highest commendation of General Pershing. This is no place to go into any detail regarding the medical service in the A. E. F. and nothing of the sort will be attempted. Ireland was promoted to colonel in the medical corps on May 15, 1917, to temporary rank of brigadier general on May 16, 1918, and to major general assistant Surgeon General, A. E. F., on August 8, 1918.

With the approaching retirement of General Gorgas in October 1918 there was much interest and concern in regard to his successor. The conduct of General Gorgas' office by Colonel Robert E. Noble (at this time a temporary major general) had made him a formidable candidate and there was considerable mention of men from the civilian profession for the place. In the A. E. F., in the summer of 1918, a group of high ranking men of the corps, several senior to General Ireland, put in a request to General Pershing that he should recommend Ireland for appointment as Surgeon General. This coincided with General Pershing's own view and he made the recommendation as requested. Whether or not this was the deciding factor, General Ireland was appointed Surgeon General with the grade of major general on October 4, 1918. The choice of General Ireland by this group of men of the A. E. F., any one of whom might with good reason have been himself a candidate, was a tribute of the highest order, and the corps as a whole has reason to be proud of this group in its unselfish abnegation.

General Ireland arrived in New York on October 28 and took the oath of office October 30, the office in the meantime functioning under Brigadier General Charles Richard. After the Armistice November 11, 1918, he found the office confronted with the problems incident to demobilization and reorganization. To the medical service fell not only the duty of the physical examination of all personnel prior to discharge and the evaluation of their disabilities; but there were still thousands of sick and wounded to be healed and reconstructed.

With the gradual reduction of the case load there was necessary a coincident reduction of medical department facilities; but the years following the close of the war were still busy ones for the army general hospitals. Much of the energy of General Ireland's early years in office was employed in replacing with permanent construction the temporary hospital structures erected during the war. The Walter Reed and Letterman General Hospitals were thus rebuilt and completed. The William Beaumont General Hospital at El Paso, Texas, was built and put into operation July 1, 1921. The development of the Army Medical Center was another notable achievement of this period. In addition to the construction of new pavilions for the hos-

pital and the improvement of the grounds there were added the fine building which houses the Army Medical, Dental, and Veterinary schools, and a new Red Cross building. The medical department schools housed in the new building were greatly developed with largely full-time instructors. The Army School of Nursing was continued in connection with the Walter Reed General Hospital. A further development was the creation on May 15, 1920, of the Medical Field Service School at Carlisle Barracks, Pa., a school for officers and enlisted men where they are instructed in medico-military matters, administration, tactics, field sanitation, work with field units, map-making, equitation, motor mechanism, and kindred topics. The third tropical disease board was established in Manila in the spring of 1922.

The disposal of the large stocks of surplus medical supplies on hand at the close of the war was one of the major problems of the supply division of the office. Altogether General Ireland's term of office was marked by notable progress along the whole line of medical department activity. He had the confidence of the General Staff and of the military committees of the Senate and House and was given by them a degree of consideration accorded to but few of the occupants of The Surgeon General's office. He was reappointed on October 30, 1922, and again on October 30, 1926, and October 30, 1930, and was retired on May 31, 1931, by reason of reaching the statutory age.

One can do no better in listing the qualities of General Ireland than to quote the words of the commanding general of the A.E.F. who saw in him the outstanding figure in the medical corps of that time: "He is abounding in vitality, mental and physical, quick and accurate in decision, and prompt in action once the decision is made. He understands men and knows how to work with them for the common end. He has a thorough knowledge of the organization of the army and the medical department's place in it. He is far-sighted in making plans, and unusually able in administration. He is loyal always, but courageous in promoting sound views and avoiding error. He has an attractive personality and a diplomatic turn of mind, through which he has been able, among other things, to promote, in the War Department and in Congress, the goal of his ambition, which is to make his department more useful not only to the army but

to the profession in general." To the writer, an outstanding trait of General Ireland is his instant grasp of any proposition brought to his attention, his recognition of its merits and its defects and the promptness with which he can weigh these, one against the other, and arrive at a decision convincing to the author of the scheme. He has the gift of a highly retentive memory of personnel, not only of names and faces but of incidents connected with previous meetings. This happy faculty has been not only an aid in the success of his administration but has had much to do with his great personal popularity.

General Ireland has been the recipient of a flood of honors, from his own and from foreign governments, from learned societies, and from institutions of learning. He was given the American Distinguished Service Medal, and was made a Commander of the Legion of Honor of France, a Companion of the Order of the Bath of Great Britain, and a Grand Officer of the Order of Polonia Restituta. He is a fellow and one time president of the American College of Surgeons, fellow of the American College of Physicians, and of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh. He has been president of the National Board of Medical Examiners and a member of the Council of Medical Education and Hospitals of the American Medical Association. He has been a director of Garfield Hospital, of Columbia Hospital, and of the United States Soldiers' Home, all in Washington. A long-time member of the Association of Military Surgeons, he was its president in 1925-27.

General Ireland's contributions to periodic literature have been largely in the form of addresses which it fell to his duty to make upon all sorts of occasions. The great literary event of his administration was the production of the *History of the Medical Department of the U. S. Army in the World War*, begun with Colonel Charles Lynch as editor and finished under the editorship of Colonel Frank W. Weed.

Since retirement General Ireland has lived in Washington, continuing active participation in the civic affairs of the community. He has also kept up much of his former activities in the administration of local hospitals and in the affairs of various medical societies. He has received offers of places of honor and profit but has preferred to remain in position to come

and go and do as he wishes. Much of the time of General and Mrs. Ireland is taken up by more or less prolonged trips away from Washington, to Florida in the winter and to Colorado in the summer, where at Pueblo lives their only son, Dr. Paul Mills Ireland, born in 1895, and a graduate of the University of Michigan in the class of 1920.

[*Who's Who in American Medicine* (1925). P. M. Ashburn *History of the Medical Department of the U.S. Army* (1929). *Mil. Surgeon* Dec. 1926 and June 1931. *Clin. Med.* April 1925. *J. A. M. A.* Oct. 13, 1918. *Mod. Med.* Nov. 1919. *N. York Med. J.* Oct. 5, 1918. *South. M. J.* Nov. 1918. *Med. Press, London* Jan. 1919.]



ROBERT URIE PATTERSON

XXIII.

ROBERT URIE PATTERSON, The Surgeon General, June 1, 1931 - May 31, 1935, was born on June 16, 1877, at Montreal, Canada, the second of seven sons of an American family residing in Canada. His father, William James Ballantyne Patterson, was the son of Scotch parents, William Jeffrey and Janet Galbraith Urie Patterson, who came to this country from Glasgow, near the middle of the last century. His mother was Eleanor Haight Lay, daughter of Robert Lay, direct descendant of the first Robert Lay who landed at Saybrook, Connecticut, with Lords Say and Seale, about 1635. Young Robert attended Berthier Grammar School and Bishop's College School in Quebec, Canada, and later when the family moved to San Antonio, Texas, attended San Antonio Academy. Returning to Montreal he entered the Montreal Collegiate Institute and later McGill University where he was graduated in 1898 with the degrees of M. D. and C. M.

After a year of internship (1898-1899) in the Montreal General Hospital and another year (1899-1900) as resident accoucheur at the Montreal Maternity Hospital he went to Belt, Montana, for private practice. The next year, however, he took the examination for the army medical service and was commissioned an assistant surgeon with the rank of first lieutenant on June 29, 1901, from the state of Maryland. His first station was Fort McHenry in Baltimore, where he remained until the opening of the Army Medical School in Washington in November. He completed the course the following April as an honor graduate and was immediately ordered to duty in the Philippine Islands. Arriving in Manila on May 12, 1902, he was sent to duty in Laguna province, serving several sub-stations from his post at Binan. This service was in the midst of an epidemic of cholera which was especially severe around the Laguna de Bay. After some months of this duty he was transferred to the Convalescent Hospital on Corregidor Island where he served for three months. In December he was transferred to the Department of Mindanao, reporting at Zamboanga from whence he was

ordered to duty at Camp Vicars on Lake Lanao.

Arriving at Camp Vicars on January 8, 1903, he saw a year of duty marked by desperate fighting with insurgent Moros in the center of Mindanao and on the island of Jolo. In these engagements he displayed not only professional skill under trying circumstances, but showed conspicuous gallantry under fire. Many years later he received from the War Department two Silver Star citations for gallantry in action in caring for the wounded throughout the hand to hand fighting incident to the attack on Fort Bacolod, Mindanao, April 8, 1903, and for gallantry in the action against hostile Moros at Fort Pitacus on Lake Lanao, May 4, 1903.

The year of 1904 was spent largely at the post of Zamboanga on sanitary service with the municipality and in the post hospital. In December 1904 he was transferred, sick, to the First Reserve Hospital in Manila, from whence he went to duty in charge of the Quartermaster Dispensary, with additional duty as sanitary inspector at the Division headquarters. Returning to the United States in June 1905 he was assigned to the Presidio of San Francisco and placed on duty with Company "B" Hospital Corps under Captain Albert E. Truby, with additional duty as sanitary inspector. With the company he took an active part in the work incident to the earthquake and fire of April 18, 1906. When, in 1906, the Cuban Pacification was undertaken he went with Company "B" Hospital Corps from the Presidio of San Francisco to Newport News and embarked in October of that year for Havana where they took station at Camp Columbia. The company was here reorganized and named Field Hospital No. 10. He returned to the United States in April 1909 and was assigned to command of Company "C" Hospital Corps then at Walter Reed Hospital in Washington but soon transferred to Fort Niagara, New York. In April 1910 he went to Fort Banks, Mass., where he served until June 1913. This duty was interrupted by a term of service with the Maneuver Division assembled at Fort Sam Houston from March to July 1911, where he served first as commanding officer of a field hospital and then became director of ambulance companies of the Maneuver Division. In 1912 he took a course in medical field service at Fort Leavenworth. From Fort Banks he was

ordered to Washington in June 1913 for duty with the headquarters of the American Red Cross in charge of its first-aid department. In 1916 he was director of the Bureau of Medical Service, American Red Cross.

In connection with his Red Cross duties he went to England, France, and Holland, sailing from New York on the Red Cross ship, September 13, 1914, in charge of American Red Cross surgeons and nurses on their way to duty with the different belligerent powers in the care of their sick and wounded, and returning on October 24. He was still on duty with the Red Cross when the United States entered the World War. On May 11, 1917, he sailed again for England, this time in command of U. S. Army Base Hospital No. 5 (the Harvard Unit), and on May 30 arrived with it in France. While located at Dannes-Camiers with the British forces the hospital was bombed by a German plane on September 4, 1917, the first unit of the United States army to suffer casualties after the country entered the World War. Lieutenant Fitzsimons and Privates Tugo, Rubino, and Woods were killed, while three officers and five privates were seriously wounded. In February 1918 Colonel Patterson was appointed a member of the American Military Mission to Italy. He served as a general medical inspector in May and June 1918 and was on duty with the Second Division in June 1918 during the active operations leading up to Chateau Thierry, and with the "Paris Group" until July 2, 1918. In the following month he returned to the United States for duty in the office of The Surgeon General.

For his service in the war he received a citation and the War Medal from the British War Office. The Italian government gave him the *Fatiche di Guerra*, the *Medaglia del' Unita*, and made him an Officer of the Crown of Italy. He was also made an Officer of the Czechoslovak Order of the White Lion and received the Serbian Red Cross decoration. From his own government he received the Distinguished Service Medal.

Through the years he had been advancing in the military scale. From a captaincy, reached on June 29, 1906, he was promoted to major on January 1, 1910, to lieutenant colonel on May 15, 1917, and to the temporary grade of colonel on December 17, 1917, which he held until June 30, 1920. Late in 1918 Col-

onel Patterson was assigned as instructor in the Army War College and later was transferred to the War Department General Staff in the Operations and War Plans divisions respectively. He graduated from the War College in June 1921 and returned to The Surgeon General's office in the training division. He was placed upon the General Staff eligible list. In August 1921 he was detailed as Medical Director, U. S. Veterans' Bureau, which post he filled until February 1923 when he was placed in charge of the medical section of the Washington General Intermediate Depot. After a few months of this duty he was brought again into the office of The Surgeon General as executive officer, where he served for two years. He was then assigned to the command of the Army and Navy General Hospital at Hot Springs, Arkansas. He spent five busy years (1925-1930) at this station, reaching the grade of colonel on June 29, 1927. In August 1930 he went to the Hawaiian Department as department surgeon at Honolulu.

As the months of General Ireland's term of office were drawing to a close in 1931 there was the usual number of active candidates for the expected vacancy. Rumors and speculation were rife and were only partially stilled when orders were issued for Colonel Patterson to return to the United States. His return was followed by his appointment as The Surgeon General with the grade of major general from June 1, 1931.

General Patterson came to the office at a very inauspicious time. It was a period of deep economic depression throughout the country and a time of economy and retrenchment in government business. Suspension of the Army School of Nursing was approved by the Secretary of War August 12, 1931, for reasons of economy, and the school was discontinued as of January 31, 1933. Indications were that effort was necessary to save past accomplishments from being undone rather than to undertake new ones. However, despite these handicaps, there were material achievements to be recorded for the years of his term. At the Army Medical Center the center and north wing of the school building were constructed, new buildings obtained for the utilities of the post and two wings added to Delano Hall, the nurses' home. The entire rebuilding of the Army and Navy General Hospital at Hot Springs, Arkansas, was completed in October 1933. Among other new hospital construction, fine new build-

ings were built at Fort Jay, New York, and Fort Bragg, North Carolina. The inauguration of the Civilian Conservation Corps in 1933 placed a new load of responsibility upon the medical service and brought a greatly increased burden upon general and post hospitals. This was not without its advantages as it provided for increases in hospital personnel and made funds available for the thorough equipment of station hospitals. There was begun at this time a plan to make the equipment of the station hospitals as modern as that of the general hospitals and very material progress was made upon this plan. In 1934 the third tropical disease board which had been established in Manila in the spring of 1922, was removed to Ancon in the Panama Canal Zone, where, by July it was established in the Board of Health Laboratory, Gorgas Hospital.

Throughout his term of office General Patterson maintained close touch with the officer personnel and increased an already great popularity. Of fine figure and handsome face, of jovial manner and good address, with a gift of ready language, he was called upon for much public speaking during his term as The Surgeon General.

Upon completion of his four years of office General Patterson was relieved as Surgeon General May 31, 1935. Though six years short of the mandatory retirement age he chose to retire, and in doing so accepted the post of dean of the University of Oklahoma Medical School and that of superintendent of its two teaching hospitals at Oklahoma City. Closely following the termination of his duty as The Surgeon General he was sent to Brussels, Belgium, as a representative of the United States at the Eighth International Congress of Military Medicine and Pharmacy. His retirement with the rank of major general was effective November 30, 1935.

General Patterson is a fellow of the American College of Surgeons and of the American College of Physicians, a member of the American Medical Association, of the Association of Military Surgeons of the United States, of the Military Order of the World War, and of the Military Order of the Carabao. McGill University in 1932 awarded him the honorary degree of LL.D.

Of his six brothers, the eldest entered the army in 1901, became one of its first aviators and was retired as a colonel of

The Adjutant General's Department. Three other brothers were emergency officers during the World War, one each in the infantry, artillery, and air corps. Physical disabilities precluded the two remaining brothers from war service.

General Patterson was married on March 28, 1905, at Zamboanga, P. I., to Eda Beryl Lorraine Day of Dayton, Washington, who died in April 1918. On August 14, 1920, he married Eleanor Reeve of Brandywine, Maryland. There are four children of the two marriages. General and Mrs. Patterson have been residents of Oklahoma City since his retirement from the service in 1935.

[*Who's Who in the Nation's Capital, 1923-1924* (1923). *Who's Who in American Medicine* (1925). *Army Medical Bulletin* No. 34, January 1936. *Clin. M. and S. Oct.* 1931. *Annual Reports of The Surgeon General, U. S. Army, 1931-1934.*]



CHARLES RANSOM REYNOLDS

XXIV.

CHARLES RANSOM REYNOLDS, The Surgeon General, June 1, 1935 - May 31, 1939, was born in Elmira, New York, on July 28, 1877, the son of George Gardiner and Lucy (Pratt) Reynolds, both descended from English families who had come to the Chemung valley from Connecticut. After completing the public school courses in Elmira, Charles attended the medical department of the University of Michigan for two years (1895-1897), then transferred to the medical department of the University of Pennsylvania where he received his degree of M. D. in 1899. Following an internship at Mercy Hospital at Pittsburgh and at the Philadelphia General Hospital (Blockley), he joined the medical department of the army on September 1, 1900, as a contract surgeon. An elder brother, Frederick Pratt Reynolds, had entered the medical department in 1892 and at this time was a senior captain in the corps. Later a third brother, Royal Reynolds, continued the family tradition so that for many years the three Reynolds brothers were known as medical officers of note.

Sent immediately to the Philippine Islands, Charles first served in the Second Reserve Hospital in Manila and later at Ormoc on Leyte island until June 1, 1901. In the meantime he had qualified for appointment as a first lieutenant and was commissioned in that grade on February 11, 1901. While in Leyte he participated in two engagements with the insurgent natives. From Ormoc he was transferred to the military hospital at Cebu on the island of the same name, where he served until September 1902. Ordered to Manila, he served as transport surgeon on the transport *Thomas* during its homeward sailing on November 6, 1902, and continued on this duty until January 1903. His next station was Fort Washington, Maryland, where he served until July 1904. This service was broken by temporary duty at the Army General Hospital at Washington Barracks (forerunner of the Walter Reed General Hospital) from September to November 1903, and by a trip to West Point, Kentucky (later known as Fort Knox), and Fort Riley, Kansas, with Hospital Company No. 1 from Washington Barracks. The maneuvers at West Point, Kentucky, were the first in which the Regular Army and the Na-

tional Guard jointly took part. Transferred to Washington Barracks for duty in July 1904, Lieutenant Reynolds' service was largely with the hospital company which he took to camps at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, and Manassas, Virginia, during the ensuing summer.

Ordered again to the Philippine Department, he arrived in Manila in December 1905 and was assigned to duty at Jolo. The following six months were busy and dangerous ones, taken up with almost constant field duty in which Reynolds, a captain since February 11, 1906, took an active part. For gallantry in action against the Moros at Mt. Dajo during this campaign, when he cared for the wounded despite enemy fire and hand to hand attack, he was later awarded a Silver Star citation. In August 1906 he was transferred to Cuartel de Espana in Manila and in March 1907 to Fort Wm. McKinley in the outskirts of the city.

In January 1908, his second Philippine tour completed, he sailed for the United States by way of Europe, reaching New York in June after having spent some time studying at the Krankenhaus in Vienna. He was again assigned to the Army General Hospital at Washington Barracks and put in charge of Company "C" Hospital Corps, which he took to Chickamauga Park, Georgia; Fort Riley, Kansas; and St. Joseph, Missouri, during the summer of 1908. With the opening of the Walter Reed General Hospital in April 1909, Captain Reynolds became its first adjutant and served therein until August 1909, when he returned to his station at Washington Barracks, where a post hospital was in operation, and where he served until August 1913. He was instructor in medical department administration and field service at the Army Medical School from October 1908 until August 1913.

In the meantime he had been promoted to the grade of major on March 13, 1909. While stationed at Washington Barracks he was married on December 26, 1910, to Jane Boyd Hurd of Watkins Glen, New York.

In October 1913 Major Reynolds was transferred to Fort Sam Houston, Texas, at which place the hospital was functioning to capacity on account of the concentration of troops on the Mexican border. At Fort Sam Houston he commanded the base hospital and conducted the surgical service until June 1915, when again he was ordered to foreign service, this time to the Department of

Hawaii, where he was assigned as chief of the surgical service at the Department Hospital at Honolulu. This duty was interrupted when the United States entered the World War, April 6, 1917. Major Reynolds was ordered home and assigned as instructor at the medical officers' training camp at Fort Riley, Kansas. He was promoted to the grade of lieutenant colonel on May 15, 1917, and in August was transferred to Camp Upton, Yaphank, New York, as division surgeon of the 77th Division, National Army, commanded by Major General J. Franklin Bell. He was promoted to the grade of colonel in the National Army in June 1918 with rank from November 29, 1917. In April 1918 he arrived with the Division headquarters at Calais, France, by way of Liverpool and the English Channel.

He participated with the Division in a period of training with the British army at Picardy and Artois, and in June accompanied it to the Baccarat sector in Lorraine where in June it replaced the 42d American Division and began the occupation of a sector of the first line.

In August, Colonel Reynolds moved with the Division to the Champagne front where it took over its part of the Vesle sector and where later it participated in the Oise-Aisne operation. On August 14 Colonel Reynolds became surgeon of the VI Corps to which he had been previously assigned, and on September 29 he was transferred to the headquarters at Toul, as chief surgeon of the newly formed Second Army under the command of Lieutenant General Robert L. Bullard. As division, corps, and army surgeon, Colonel Reynolds served with troops sustaining heavy casualties, under conditions which made extremely difficult adequate front line treatment and evacuation.

The manner in which he met these difficulties won for him not only the appreciation of his immediate commanders but advancement in position and responsibilities and finally the award of the Distinguished Service Medal with the following citation:

"For exceptionally meritorious and distinguished services as division surgeon of the 77th Division, as chief surgeon, VI Army Corps, and later as chief surgeon, Second Army, he displayed qualities of leadership, high professional attainments and rare judgment in energetically

directing the work of the sanitary units under his control. By his foresight in providing front line hospitalization and evacuation facilities for the sick and wounded in the field, he rendered services of signal merit to the A. E. F."

The Second Army was employed in the Meuse-Argonne operations and the armistice on November 11, 1918, intervened to obviate further fighting, but the Army functioned as a unit for administration and training until April 1919, when it was disbanded. From Toul, Colonel Reynolds went to Tours and then to Bordeaux as surgeon of that base area, where he supervised the medical examination of returning troops and the closing of the numerous hospitals in that vicinity. He returned to the United States in July 1919 and was assigned to duty in the office of Surgeon General Ireland, as head of the personnel division and later as executive officer. During four years of duty in the office he was one of those closest in the confidence and esteem of The Surgeon General. When in 1923 it became necessary to give him a change of station he was sent to the command of the Medical Field Service School at Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania. On February 28, 1927, he was promoted to the grade of colonel. Eight years as commandant at Carlisle Barracks, during which period this important school developed into one of the most important agencies for the instruction of medical officers that our army has ever had, brought the year 1931 and the end of General Ireland's term as The Surgeon General, when Colonel Reynolds was transferred to Governors Island, New York, as surgeon of the Second Corps Area. In this choice post he continued his efficient administration, with extra work in connection with the Civilian Conservation Corps, until again the post of Surgeon General was to be filled, and this time, in May 1935, the appointment by President Franklin D. Roosevelt went to Colonel Reynolds without apparent competition. The oath of office, making him Surgeon General with the grade of major general, was taken at Governors Island on June 1, 1935, and on June 3 General Reynolds greeted the personnel in the office where he had served as personnel and executive officer. General Reynolds' career as the twenty-fourth holder of this important office was entirely in keeping with his other service, for he was one of the most successful chiefs the medical department had ever known. During his administration the following may be noted as of prime importance:

Changes in the organization of The Surgeon General's Office were effected in 1935 to counteract over-centralization and to provide for independent dental, veterinary, nursing, statistical, and Army Medical Library divisions. In 1936 reclassification surveys of civilian personnel were made in the Army Medical Museum and Library, and in 1938 these surveys were extended to cover the entire Surgeon General's Office.

The medical department of the army was increased by 200 medical and 100 dental officers. One additional brigadier general, medical, and one brigadier general, dental, were also added. Under the act of April 3, 1939 (53 Stat. 559), the authorized strength of the medical corps was increased to 1,424, and of the dental corps to 316, the increases to be attained by equal annual increments over a ten year period. The army nurse corps was increased from 600 to 700, and the medical administrative corps was reorganized by the act of June 24, 1936 (49 Stat. 1902), which provided for the addition of 16 pharmacists to the corps and the abandonment of the plan of commissioning enlisted men after a minimum service of two years. The enlisted force was increased from some 6,500 to more than 8,600, with corresponding increases in grades and ratings of noncommissioned officers and privates.

In the field of training changes of importance occurred. The graduate or basic course at the Army Medical School was reestablished in 1935 so as to provide this valuable training in the auxiliary subjects of medicine of special value in the military service. The advanced course consists almost entirely of preventive medicine and health administration. Acts of Congress prior to 1935 abolished the medical, dental, and veterinary reserve officers' training corps units. In 1936 the medical reserve officers' training corps units were reestablished, a matter of satisfaction to the service. The advanced course at the Medical Field Service School was increased from two to three months so as to give special training to officers about to be assigned as instructors with the National Guard, the organized reserves, and the reserve officers' training corps. The increased enlisted force allotted to the medical department are to receive training in provisional medical regiments attached to the general hospitals in the United States by a rotation of service in the hospital. With these training units it

will be possible to extend opportunity for field training to a much larger group than the small increase would indicate. The plan providing for the training of medical officers in the specialties at the general hospitals of the army and civilian institutions was considerably augmented.

The medical department reserves rose from 20,685 in 1935 to 23,365 in the spring of 1939. In addition to the prescribed active duty training, medico-military courses on inactive duty status were held at the Mayo Clinic and in institutions in many of the larger cities. A policy of promoting desirable public contacts was adopted in April 1936, with the approval of the Secretary of War, and since that time many planned programs of demonstration of the work of the army medical department before professional and scientific groups have stimulated a much wider public interest and appreciation and a closer individual and institutional cooperation with the medical department.

With the prospective increments for the medical corps, medical internships, which were discontinued during the year 1937-8, were reestablished. Dental internships were established at army general hospitals early in 1939 for the first time in the history of the medical department, and plans developed for the conduct of their training program.

The program of modernizing the equipment in general and station hospitals, begun in 1933, was completed, enabling the medical service of the army to keep in step with the advances in medical science and practice. Substantial advances were also made in the procurement and distribution of modern equipment for the medical field service. Congressional appropriations for the medical and hospital department of the army were increased successively during the four years of his administration. The station hospital at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, was rebuilt, turned over to the medical department in November 1937, and occupied in February 1938. Rebuilding of the Fitzsimons General Hospital at Denver, Colorado, at an approximate cost of \$4,000,000, was begun, and extensive construction of hospitals and barracks for medical enlisted men was effected at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Jefferson Barracks, Plattsburg Barracks, Forts Douglas, Knox, McPherson, Monroe, Sill, Snelling, Warren, and many other posts. Additional nurses' quarters were provided at sev-

eral posts. From funds appropriated by Congress for the relief of unemployment, nearly one million dollars were obtained for medical department construction in 1938. At Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania, barracks and quarters were constructed, and a bill was introduced in Congress in May 1939, and favorably reported by both houses, for the construction of a new school building at that station at a cost of \$375,000. General Reynolds' appearance before the Military Affairs Committee of the House in behalf of this bill was one of his last official acts. It is a favorable sign to note that in 1938 there were 32 army hospitals which met the approved minimum hospital standards of the American College of Surgeons, an increase of 27 over the number approved by that body in 1935.

The biological laboratories at the Army Medical Center were completely reorganized and refurnished in 1935 and are generally considered the most complete and best appointed biological laboratories in the United States. In October 1936 the strain and standardization of typhoid vaccine were changed and a new strain, known as Strain No. 58, with better antigenic and immunizing properties than the Rawlings Strain, which had been used for many years in the manufacture of typhoid vaccine at the Army Medical School, was produced by that School and its use after March 1, 1937, directed. The evaluation of prophylactic immunization in pneumonia, which had been carried on since 1933, was extended in 1937-38 to include a pneumonia prophylaxis in all Civilian Conservation Corps camps throughout the country, the Army Medical School producing an immunizing substance isolated from pneumococci, using the Felton method. The large scale experimental test thus undertaken will in all probability further indicate the value of this vaccine in the protection of the individual against types I and II of pneumonia. In 1939, the Army Veterinary School completed the manufacture and distribution of sufficient encephalomyelitis vaccine for the immunization of all horses and mules of the Regular Army, the National Guard, and the reserve officers' training corps units.

With the establishment in 1938 of five central dental laboratories and the designation of several sub-central laboratories at centrally located points, a means became available to all army stations for the fabrication of practically any type of prosthetic

appliance desired, creating for the army a service long available to the civilian dentist and his patients.

The number of medical officers on duty with the Air Corps was increased to 93. By the act of April 26, 1939 (53 Stat. 596), the number of these medical officers entitled to flying pay was increased from 5 to 36. At the physiological aero medical laboratory established at Wright Field, Dayton, Ohio, substantial studies were made in cooperation with the Air Corps Materiel Division in the problems of flying at great speed and at high altitudes.

On November 16, 1936, under General Reynolds' direction, the Army Medical Library celebrated its one hundredth birthday, when Sir Humphry Rolleston, Regius Professor of Medicine at Cambridge University, came to the United States to deliver the oration. Most of the more important learned institutions of this and other lands were represented. On June 15, 1938 (52 Stat. 684), the Congress authorized the construction of a new building for the Army Medical Library and Museum at a cost not to exceed \$3,750,000. Four additional registries of pathology, collections of great value in medical research and education, were added to the four already established in the Army Medical Museum. In May 1939 the George S. Huntington anatomic collection was delivered to the Army Medical Museum, a gift from the Columbia University Medical School, New York City. This is the most comprehensive and probably the most valuable collection of comparative and human anatomic specimens in the world, illustrating practically every structure of the body, and of great value in medical research and education.

During the 75th anniversary of the battle of Gettysburg, held June 29 to July 6, 1936, sanitary and medical arrangements of the medical department kept the mortality at Gettysburg down to two, an amazing low record considering the ages of the approximately 200,000 participants which ranged from 20 to 108, with an average age of 94 for the 1,900 Civil War veterans in attendance. This accomplishment of the Medical Department won many favorable comments, including a splendid letter from the Chief of Staff.

A constant improvement in the medical service of the Civilian Conservation Corps included the evolvement of a plan for the more thorough treatment of syphilis contracted by the en-

rollees. A complete serological survey of all enlisted men of the army was approved in principle by the War Department, May 16, 1939, and plans were made to place more definitely than formerly the responsibility for the prevention of venereal diseases upon the station commander, who would also be vested with more discretionary authority in prescribing punishment.

On the last day of May 1939 official approval was given by the War Department to a revision of the clinical records used in military hospitals, the revised forms to be in accord with those in use in the better civilian hospitals and those approved by the American College of Surgeons. During the last few months of his administration, General Reynolds recommended the reestablishment of professional military units to be sponsored by civil hospitals and medical schools.

From a survey of General Reynolds' career it will be seen what a large proportion of his service had to do with medical department training and what an influence he was in that line of activity. His early service involved duty with a Hospital Corps company of instruction, with the frequent incident camp demonstrations. For five years he taught medical department administration and field service at the Army Medical School. The early months of the World War found him instructing civilian doctors in medico-military matters in a training camp. Eight years in command at Carlisle Barracks, devoted to the training of medical department officers and noncommissioned officers, not only of the regular establishment but also of the National Guard and the other civilian components of the army, climaxed a teaching career probably unequaled in the service. The corps area assignment at Governors Island was but a continuation of this career of instruction. In this detail the maintenance of interest of the officers of the civilian components is a prime essential to success, a duty involving a never-ending round of talks, formal or informal. For this work he was particularly gifted, always with definite ideas to which he lent freshness and an unusual command of language, making a highly effective public speaker.

General Reynolds is a member of the American Medical Association and the Association of Military Surgeons of the United States. On October 17, 1938, the American College of Surgeons

made him an Honorary Fellow. He is a Fellow of the American College of Physicians, and an Honorary Member of the Academy of Medicine of Washington, of the Association of Military Surgeons of Mexico, and the Society of German Army Medical Officers. Other distinctions include Honorary Fellowship in the International College of Dentists, the International College of Surgeons, and so forth. His alma mater made him a member of Alpha Omega Alpha, the honorary scholarship society in medical education, one founded after General Reynolds' graduation. On June 8, 1936, Dickinson College, Carlisle, Pennsylvania, made him a Doctor of Science, with the following citation:

"In a life entirely devoted to your Country since your graduation in medicine from the University of Pennsylvania you have consistently risen to higher positions of responsibility and larger spheres of influence. A good soldier always, your efficient service as a physician, surgeon, teacher and administrator has been recognized by a discerning Government in your appointment as Surgeon General."

In addition to the honors given him by his own government which have been already noted, General Reynolds was made an Officer of the Legion of Honor of France, and a Commander of the French Order of Public Health. He is the author of a number of articles on military medicine which have appeared in the periodical literature. In May 1939 he was elected president of the Association of Military Surgeons of the United States.

General Reynolds' active career in the army was closed by by one of his most important assignments and greatest honors. By the appointment of the President of the United States, he was President of the Tenth International Congress of Military Medicine and Pharmacy, which met in Washington and New York, May 7 to 19, 1939. Under his chairmanship the tenth congress was organized in Washington and thirty-five nations sent delegates, including some of their most important and senior medical officers. General Reynolds is a member for life of the International Committee of these Congresses, and will remain its president until the Congress of 1941.

General Reynolds reverted to the rank of colonel on June 1, 1939, upon the completion of his term as Surgeon General. Upon his own application he retired on September 30, 1939, with the rank of major general.

General and Mrs. Reynolds have two children, Charles R. Reynolds, Jr., now a practicing attorney in Washington, and a daughter, Hebe Louise, wife of Captain Conn L. Milburn, Jr., M. C., U. S. Army. The Reynolds family maintain a summer home in the Adirondacks at Keene Valley, New York.

[*Who's Who in American Medicine*, 1925. *Army Medical Bulletin* No. 32, July 1935; No. 49, July 1939. *Clin. M. and S.* 1935. *Week. Roster*, Phila., 1935. *J. A. M. A.*, Chi., 1935.]

XXV.

JAMES CARRE MAGEE, The Surgeon General, June 1, 1939, _____.

The United States Senate, on April 27, 1939, received from the President the nomination of Colonel James Carre Magee, M. C., Executive Officer at the Walter Reed General Hospital, "to be The Surgeon General, with the rank of major general, for a period of four years from date of acceptance, with rank from June 1, 1939, vice Major General Charles R. Reynolds, The Surgeon General, whose term of office expires May 31, 1939." On May 17, 1939, the nomination was confirmed by that body.

The fourth son of Edward Carre and Elizabeth Armstrong Magee, of Philadelphia, General Magee was born on January 23, 1883. He received his M. D. from the Jefferson Medical College in 1905, and entered the army medical service as a contract surgeon September 9, 1907.

From September 1907 to July 1908 he served as an army contract surgeon and was then appointed first lieutenant in the medical reserve corps with which he served on active duty until May 27, 1909, when he was commissioned a first lieutenant in the medical corps of the Regular Army.

General Magee was promoted to captain in June 1912; to major in May 1917; to lieutenant colonel (temporary) in January 1918; and to colonel (temporary) in May 1919. He reverted to his Regular Army rank of major in January 1920; was promoted to lieutenant colonel in May 1929; and to colonel in May 1935.

General Magee's early service included assignments at Fort Michie, New York (July 1908 - October 1908), in Washington, D. C., as a student officer at the Army Medical School (October 1908 - May 1909), at the Presidio of San Francisco, California (June 1909 - February 1910), and on the islands of Mindanao and Jolo in the Philippines (March 1910 - March 1913). From April 1913 to December 1915 he was stationed at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, and from January 1916 until April 1917 at El Paso, Texas.



JAMES CARRE MAGEE

General Magee sailed for France in May 1917, serving overseas for two years. While in France he served on varied medical assignments until August 1918 when he was detailed as assistant to the chief surgeon of the American First Army, in which capacity he participated in the St. Mihiel and Meuse-Argonne offensives. He was awarded the Purple Heart for meritorious services in those two actions.

Returning to the United States in May 1919, General Magee was stationed at Camp Dix (now Fort Dix), New Jersey, until December 1919, when he was ordered to San Antonio, Texas, as instructor of the National Guard medical department troops of the Eighth Corps Area. He remained on that duty until the summer of 1922, when he was ordered to Washington, D.C., for a postgraduate course at the Army Medical School. Upon completion of that course he was ordered to Fort Sam Houston, Texas, in January 1923, where he served for eight months as division surgeon of the second division and commanding officer of the second medical regiment. In September 1923 he was transferred to Atlanta, Georgia, where he served until June 1925 as corps area medical inspector of the Fourth Corps Area.

For two years, beginning in August 1925, General Magee was commanding officer of the station hospital at Fort McPherson, Georgia. In September 1927 he assumed the duties of post surgeon, Fort Myer, Virginia, serving in that capacity until August 1931, in the meantime taking the advanced course at the Medical Field Service School, Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania, which he attended as a student officer from October to December 1928.

For over four years, beginning in September 1931, General Magee was on duty in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, as an instructor of all medical detachments of the Pennsylvania National Guard. In December 1935 he assumed the duties of executive officer at the Walter Reed General Hospital, Washington, D. C., in which capacity he was serving at the time of his recent appointment.

General Magee graduated from the Army Medical School in 1909, from the advanced course in preventive medicine at the Army Medical School in 1922, from the Medical Field Service School's advanced course in 1928, and from the advanced grad-

uate course in preventive medicine at the Army Medical School in 1939.

In 1908 he married Miss Irene MacKay of Pennsylvania. They have two sons, Mervyn MacKay Magee, now a first lieutenant, Field Artillery, and James C. Magee, Jr., a second lieutenant, U. S. Marine Corps.

He is a Fellow of the American Medical Association, an Honorary Fellow of the American College of Surgeons, a member of the Association of Military Surgeons of the United States, and a member of the Military Order of the Carabao.

Less than a year has elapsed since General Magee's appointment to The Surgeon Generalcy and no attempt is here made to record his official acts in that capacity. However, from his unusually varied experience in the field, in large army hospitals, and in service schools, General Magee has gained a wide knowledge of medico-military affairs and his appointment as chief of the army medical department provides, and will undoubtedly prove, a unique opportunity for further service by this distinguished member of the medical corps.

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